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REQUEST

See 190-JN 26834

2/2006

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REQUEST

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DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL

1-27-83

FEDERAL BUREAU

DO NOT DESTROY

157-9586

PENDING LITIGATION

See

197-241,323

F.O.I.P.A.

of

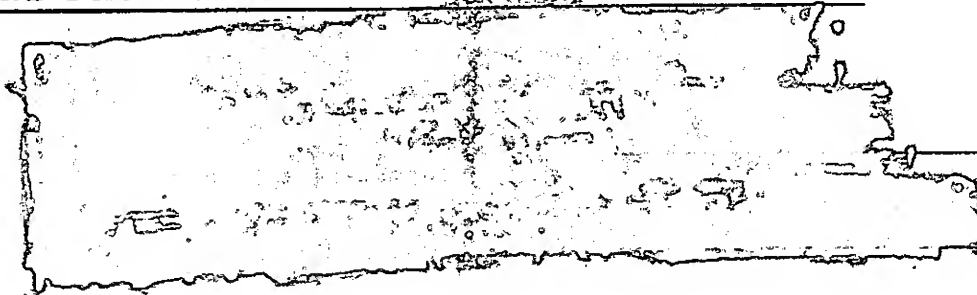
REQUEST

See 190-82

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 8/84

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number



See also Nos. 157-9586-571 Newspapers

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-9586-572

Volume Number

Serials

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/23/68

Mrs. SYBIL EURE, owner, Eure Real Estate Company, 423 Raymond Road, Jackson, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry.

It was explained to Mrs. EURE that since the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., her past association with LEROY McMANAMAN, an inmate of Leavenworth Penitentiary, may be of a more significant nature.

Mrs. EURE inquired as to whether this concerned the offer of a large sum of money to murder Dr. KING.

Mrs. EURE, who appears to be a reasonably successful businesswoman, neat in appearance and well spoken, said she now recalls how this alleged offer of money to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING all started.

She said that in 1964, when she first met McMANAMAN, he was introduced to her through mutual business friends. She said McMANAMAN was out of prison on some kind of bond waiting for an appeal. At the same time, the racial problems and disturbances in Neshoba County, Mississippi, were being mentioned very prominently in the newspapers. Sheriff LAWRENCE RAINEY of Neshoba County was presumed to be, at the time, some kind of an official in the Ku Klux Klan in Neshoba County. At least the newspapers, radio and television news stories at that time indicated as much. During the same period, her real estate business was in minor financial difficulty, and she recalls casually mentioning that if she approached the Sheriff of Neshoba County, she could probably get \$100,000 to kill KING. Mrs. EURE said she now feels that in all probability, McMANAMAN took her casual statements seriously. She said she now realizes the seriousness of such a statement since Dr. KING's murder.

On 5/13/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-SF2-123
by SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER/cl Date dictated 5/17/68

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JN 157-9586

Mrs. EURE explained that she is an outspoken businesswoman and often makes remarks of this nature more to attract some prospective customers than anything else. She said she firmly believes that this is the basis for McMANAMAN's information concerning the offer of money by the klan in Mississippi to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

In attempting to determine the circumstances concerning her meeting McMANAMAN in 1964, Mrs. EURE said she met him through a mutual business friend. Her association with McMANAMAN was strictly business. She said in her opinion, McMANAMAN had a world of knowledge in real estate business and that if he ever gets out of prison, she will always be willing to hire him as an assistant in her real estate business.

After his appeal was denied in 1964, McMANAMAN was returned to Kansas and began serving his sentence. She said she went out to the Leavenworth Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, on two occasions in 1964, the first time to pick up McMANAMAN's automobile which she financed for him. All other visits, two or three times in 1965 and once in 1966, were just friendly visits. She said the last time she visited him was early in 1966 and that she has not seen him or heard from him since that time. She said as far as she knows, he is still in prison.

Mrs. EURE was very apologetic, very cooperative, and stated that she has no information whatsoever concerning the person or persons responsible for the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. She said she has no information whatsoever concerning any plot or any offer of money for the murder of KING. If, in the event she receives any information which may be of help in this matter, she will immediately contact the FBI.

Mrs. EURE said she has never met DONALD JAMES NISSEN and has no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY. She said she has seen photographs of RAY and this individual is completely unfamiliar to her.

JN 157-9586

Mrs. EURE is a white female, approximately 5 feet 9 inches in height, slender, moderately attractive and approximately 50 years of age. Her ex-husband is JOHN EURE. Mrs. EURE has been separated and divorced and has not remarried.

A waiver of rights form was not exhibited to Mrs. EURE in that she stated she knew her rights and was perfectly willing to discuss anything with the FBI on a free and voluntary basis. She again expressed a desire to be cooperative and expressed her great admiration for the FBI.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

MONROE FOSTER, Owner, Foster Beverage Company, West Main Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, advised that on March 20, 1968, he received a shipment of Schlitz Beer from the Schlitz Brewery, Long View, Texas. He stated that he received 840 cases of Hi-cone six packs, packed 24 cans to the case, and 336 cases of 24 cans each packed loose. Mr. FOSTER stated that a check of his inventory reflects that all of this beer which was brewed with a date, March 15, 1968, has been distributed to his customers, and he is now working on beer that was brewed March 20, 1968.

Mr. FOSTER commented that the only beer he purchases from Schlitz is the pop-top cans, commenting that these cans need no can opener to open.

He stated that he serves approximately 130 customers in Lee County and Okolona, Mississippi.

Concerning a brown bag, manufactured by Graham Paper Company, with a trademark "Homestead", he stated that his company does not use these bags, and he does not know if any of his retailers use this type of bag.

On 4/11/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-122

by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/bjk Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 29, 1968

The wanted flier on JAMES EARL RAY, Wanted Flier Number 442-A, was exhibited to BILL MC LAUGHLIN; his wife, Mrs. BILL MC LAUGHLIN; and his seventeen-year-old son, WILLIAM MC LAUGHLIN, JR.

All advised that RAY is totally unknown to them and that they do not recall that individual purchasing a six-pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer, while driving a white Mustang automobile with an Alabama license.

On 4/24/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-121
by SA JAMES W. SAMMON *JS* /blw Date dictated 4/27/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/68

WOODROW W. PRINGLE, JR., 202 Pinewood Circle, Gulfport, Mississippi, was contacted at his place of employment, Fernwood Shell Service Station. PRINGLE was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

PRINGLE stated that prior to September, 1967 he and WAYNE ROGERS were partners in the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During that time he stated that Sergeant ROBERT ELDRIDGE, stationed at Keesler, was a regular customer and became quite friendly with THOMAS MOODY, who was also employed at the service station at that time.

PRINGLE stated that he has been acquainted with MOODY for several years and considers MOODY to be an honest and trustworthy individual. In the years that he has known MOODY he stated he has never heard MOODY make any statement which might indicate that he was violently opposed to the Civil Rights movement in this country. Specifically PRINGLE stated he has never heard MOODY make any type of comment which could be construed to indicate that he, MOODY, knew of any individual who would pay a large sum of money to have Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. killed. He stated to the best of his knowledge MOODY has never been a member of any Klan or hate type organization and has never shown a propensity for violence in regard to the Civil Rights movement.

PRINGLE stated that he could furnish no further information of value in this matter.

On 4/27/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-120

by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs  Date dictated 4/30/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/68

JOSEPH (NO MIDDLE NAME) SWANIER, Route 2, Box 308, Gulfport, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Fernwood Shell Service Station where he is employed. SWANIER was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

SWANIER advised that prior to September, 1967, he was employed by L. C. ROGERS and WOODY PRINGLE at the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During this period of time he worked with an individual named THOMAS MOODY and he indicated that he thought he was fairly well acquainted with MOODY. SWANIER advised that during the period of time he has known and worked with MOODY, MOODY has never made any type of comment which might indicate that he, MOODY, was aware of an individual who would pay a large sum of money to see MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. killed.

SWANIER advised that he had no reason to believe that MOODY is now or ever has been a member of any Klan or hate-type organization. SWANIER advised he could furnish no further information of value in this matter.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Race:	Negro
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:	Gulfport, Mississippi
Hair:	Black
Eyes:	Brown
Height:	6'
Weight:	165
Build:	Slender

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On 4/27/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-119
by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs Date dictated 4/30/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/68

LOWELL WAYNE ROGERS, 1619 Third Street, Gulfport, Mississippi, was interviewed at Fernwood Texaco Service Station, of which he is the owner. ROGERS was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

Prior to September, 1967, he and WOODY PRINGLE were partners in ownership of the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During that period of time in addition to him and PRINGLE, an individual identified as THOMAS MOODY, white male, age approximately 44, and JOE SWANIER, Negro male, approximate age 28, were employed at the service station. ROGERS advised that he has never heard either PRINGLE or MOODY make any comment which could be construed as indicating that either of them was aware of an individual who would pay a great sum of money to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ROGERS advised also that he had never made such a comment.

ROGERS continued that at the present time PRINGLE, MOODY and SWANIER were working at the Fernwood Shell Service Station, Biloxi, Mississippi, owned and operated by PRINGLE. ROGERS was unable to furnish any further information of value in this matter, but stated to the best of his knowledge, neither MOODY nor PRINGLE were particularly opposed to the Civil Rights movement and to the best of his knowledge neither of them had ever participated or been a member of an organization violently opposed to the Civil Rights movement.

ROGERS stated that should he obtain any information of value in this matter he would immediately contact the FBI.

On 4/26/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 - 572-118

SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs

4/30/68

Date dictated

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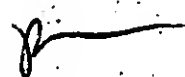
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/68

THOMAS BLOUNT MOODY was interviewed at his place of employment, Fernwood Shell Service Station. MOODY was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

MOODY stated that he had never, to the best of his recollection, made a comment to anyone which could be construed as indicating that he knew anyone who would be willing to pay a large sum of money to see that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was killed. MOODY indicated that although he was not an open advocate of Civil Rights and although he did not feel that the methods employed by certain Civil Rights leaders, including Dr. KING, were in the best interest of the country, he was not by any stretch of the imagination disposed to any type of violence in this regard. He indicated that he regretted that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. had been murdered and felt that it was a tragedy for the nation. MOODY once again vehemently denied that he ever made such a statement, however, he stated that on occasion when he drinks he might make a statement of this type just "blowing smoke." He indicated that if such a statement was made, it was certainly no basis for it in fact.

MOODY advised that he was acquainted with a Sergeant ROBERT ELDRIDGE, who was a customer of his when he was employed at the Fernwood Texaco Service Station prior to September, 1967. He stated he and ELDRIDGE became fairly good friends and that they engaged in numerous bull sessions, during which time he as well as ELDRIDGE were prone to boasting and exaggeration. He thus stated that it was not impossible that he might have said something which might be construed as indicating he knew of someone who might have been willing to pay a great deal of money for the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING

On 4/26/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-117
by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs  Date dictated 4/30/68

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however again he stated that he did not remember making such a statement and further indicated that if he did it certainly had no basis in fact.

MOODY advised that he is not now nor has he ever been a member of or sympathized with any type of organization which was prone to violence in its opposition to the Civil Rights movement. Specifically he stated he was not now nor had he ever been a member of any Klan type organization. MOODY was unable to provide any further information of value in this matter.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	9/20/24
Place of Birth:	Graceville, Florida
Height:	5'7½"
Weight:	145
Hair:	Grey, receding
Build:	Medium
Eyes:	Brown
Military Service:	United States Navy 1943-45
Service #:	8376989
Arrests:	Admits drunk arrest 14 years ago Norfolk, Virginia
Residence:	488 Weaver, Mississippi City, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

HUBERT TOMLINSON, Service Beverage Company, Holly Springs, Mississippi, was located and interviewed at his place of business. TOMLINSON was advised the identity of the interviewing Agents.

TOMLINSON stated that he is a distributor for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and in conjunction with this employment, he distributes Schlitz Beer in Marshall County, Mississippi, and a portion of the De Soto County, Mississippi area.

TOMLINSON advised that it would have been impossible for him to have distributed any Schlitz Beer in Marshall County or De Soto County before the date March 15, 1968. TOMLINSON explained that the last shipment of Schlitz Beer he received, twelve and sixteen ounce cans, bore the date of March 8, 1968. He pointed out that he has not received any shipment of Schlitz beer with the cans of beer bearing a date subsequent to March 8, 1968.

TOMLINSON stated that any Schlitz beer purchased in De Soto County and bearing a date of March 15, 1968, would have had to be distributed by the Service Beverage Company in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

On 4/15/68 at Holly Springs, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 - 572/16
by SA's RICHARD T. RABIDEAU, and
JOHN DENNIS MILLER/RTR/brh 4/19/68
by W Date dictated _____

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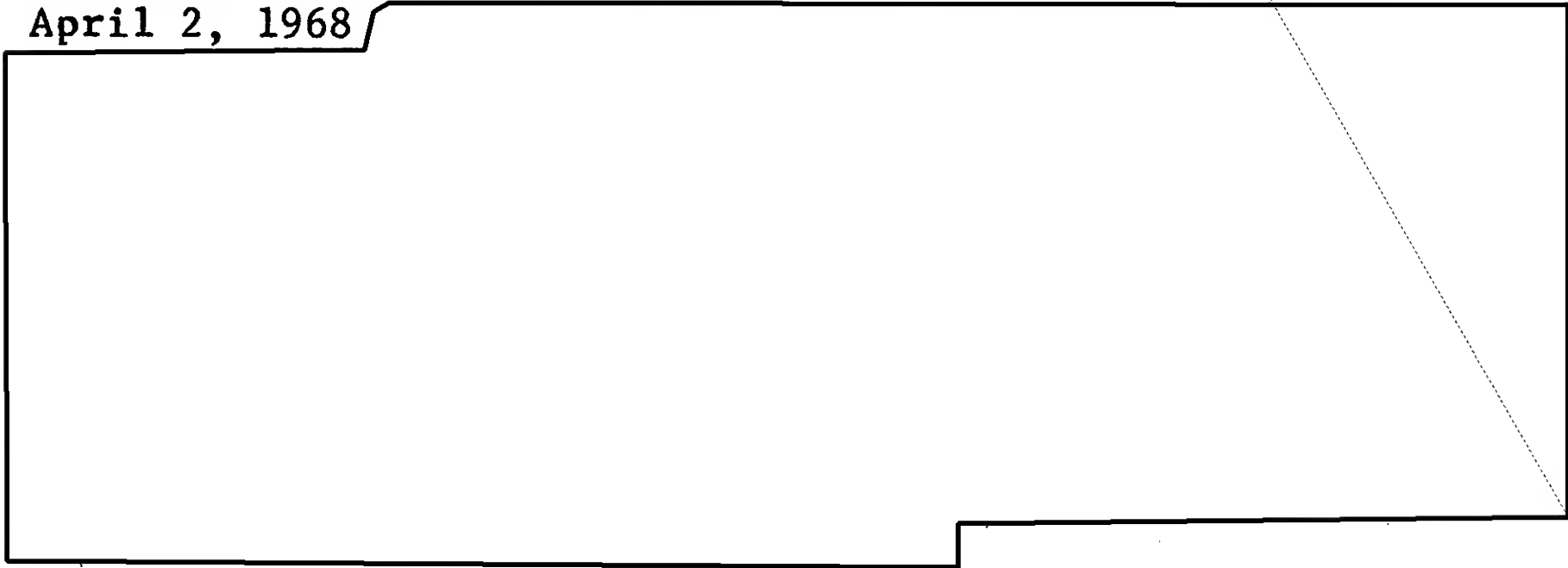
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)Date 4/11/68

ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN, 208 Joliet Road, Plain Field, Illinois, was located and interviewed at the Holly Springs, Mississippi, Police Department. SHERIDAN was immediately advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents. Present during the course of interview with SHERIDAN was Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) Investigator, J. W. WARREN, of Holly Springs, Mississippi. SHERIDAN was furnished, by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU, a warning and waiver form which he read. SHERIDAN orally indicated that he understood his rights, but he elected not to execute this form.

SHERIDAN stated that he is a partner in the interior design business in Plain Field, Illinois. SHERIDAN stated that the name of the firm is the Rabros and Associates and that his partner is RICHARD ALEX BONYA.

SHERIDAN stated that he departed Plain Field, Illinois on Wednesday, April 3, 1968, driving his 1966 Cadillac. SHERIDAN explained that he departed Illinois en route to Florida for a vacation. He stated that on April 2, 1968



On 4/8/68 at HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-572-115
by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU and
SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. RTR/jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

SHERIDAN stated that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on April 2, 1968, that he decided that he needed a rest and a vacation. SHERIDAN stated that he traveled from Plain Field, Illinois on April 3, 1968 and spent that night at the Holiday Inn Motel in Blytheville, Arkansas. He stated that on April 4, 1968, he traveled from Blytheville, Arkansas directly to Millington, Tennessee, where he immediately checked into the Rip Van Winkle Motel. SHERIDAN stated that he still maintains a room at the Tip Van Winkle Motel in Millington, Tennessee and that some of his clothing is still at this motel.

SHERIDAN stated that he went to Millington, Tennessee in order to see one STEVE FRY who is stationed at the Naval Air Base in Millington, Tennessee. SHERIDAN pointed out that STEVE FRY is a former employee of the Rabros and Associates and he, SHERIDAN, was interested in contacting FRY and visiting with him. He stated that he attempted to contact FRY at the Naval Station on Thursday, April 4, 1968, with negative results. He explained that he was unable to contact FRY on the afternoon of April 4, 1968 and that during the evening of April 4, 1968, there was a tornado that struck in the Millington, Tennessee area making it impossible to contact FRY.

He stated that he did, in fact, contact STEVE FRY on the following day, April 5, 1968.

SHERIDAN stated that he remained at the Rip Van Winkle Motel in Millington, Tennessee until Sunday, April 7, 1968, when he traveled to Holly Springs, Mississippi. SHERIDAN stated that he became extremely nervous because of the rioting and the demonstrations in Memphis, Tennessee and as a result elected not to travel anywhere, but remain in Millington, Tennessee.

SHERIDAN stated that he departed Millington, Tennessee for Holly Springs, Mississippi on Sunday, April 7, 1968 because he had been unable to complete long distance telephone calls that he had attempted to place to his partner in Plain Field, Illinois. SHERIDAN explained that he ran out

of money and was attempting to contact his partner; however, the telephone circuits were constantly tied up and he was unable to make or complete these calls. As a result, he decided to travel to Holly Springs, Mississippi and check into a motel where he could successfully complete his telephone calls.

SHERIDAN stated that while en route to Holly Springs, Mississippi on April 7, 1968, he stopped at a Negro service station, which he was unable to further describe, and purchased gasoline for his automobile. He stated that after departing this service station he noticed that a suitcase was missing from his automobile. SHERIDAN could not describe the manufacturer of this suitcase, but indicated that it was tan in color. He stated that the following listed items were in the suitcase at the time it was stolen:

- Polaroid Camera
- Gideon Bible
- Two sets of underclothing
- One black pair of trousers
- A Norelco Electric Shaver

SHERIDAN stated that he checked into the Holly Inn Motel located in Holly Springs, Mississippi and remained at this motel until he was arrested by the Police Department on the morning of April 8, 1968.

SHERIDAN stated that the 1966 Cadillac that he was in possession of, is his automobile and that he purchased this Cadillac from RAY KINNEY Motors in Joliet, Illinois. SHERIDAN stated that the Illinois registration papers for this automobile had been lost or stolen.

SHERIDAN emphatically denied owning or purchasing any type of weapon. He further stated that the only occasion he had ever been through the city of Birmingham, Alabama, was on a train during the time he was in the military service.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

JN 157-9586

Name	ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN
Residence	208 Joliet Road Plain Field, Illinois
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	32
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Mount Vernon, Illinois
Height	6'
Weight	205
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Characteristics	Receding forehead
Selective Service #	11-141-36-13
Previous Arrests	Admits being arrested by the Aurora, Illinois Police Department in 1961 on a DWI charge. States charges were dropped and he was released. States he was fingerprinted by the Aurora, Illinois Police Department at the time of his arrest.
Employment	Partner in the Rabros and Associates, Plain Field, Illinois

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

ROBERT DUVALL ROGERS, 510 Spanish Main, Spanish Fort, Alabama, telephone Mobile, Alabama, 433-1307, telephonically contacted the Meridian Resident Agency of the FBI saying that he would like to meet an Agent at the Travel Inn Motel Restaurant, Tom Bailey Drive, Meridian, Mississippi, to relate some information concerning the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Agents met ROGERS as requested, at which time he related the following information:

ROGERS stated that at about 2:00 p.m., on April 8, 1968, he left Spanish Fort, Alabama, en route to Morton, Mississippi, to visit relatives. He said that he traveled through Saraland to Citronelle, Alabama, and as he started to turn right on U. S. Highway 45 at the Rosa A. Lott Negro school at the Petroleum Club on Highway 45, he noticed a light blue or light green 1963 Rambler automobile traveling north on Highway 45. ROGERS said that he pulled in behind that Rambler automobile, at which time the driver sped off at an extremely high rate of speed (about 90 miles per hour). He related that he increased his speed to catch up with the Rambler automobile and followed that car on through Citronelle to a point about 11 miles north of Citronelle. ROGERS stated that the Rambler automobile then turned East on a dirt road about 150 yards south of the intersection of Highway 17 with U. S. 45. He said that he recalls having seen a highway sign near that dirt road which sign read "Mobile 43 miles". ROGERS stated that after seeing the Rambler turn on the dirt road, he turned around at the intersection of Highway 17 and went back to the dirt road where he observed the Rambler going east on the dirt road at a high rate of speed. ROGERS said that he thought that the car might have been going to a residence on that road. He said that the Rambler bore an unknown Georgia license plate.

On 4/17/68 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-114
by SA'S RICHARD L. BROCK and JOHN B. RUCKER, JR: JBR/cmb Date dictated 4/17/68

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JN 157-9586

ROGERS advised that just prior to his leaving Spanish Fort, Alabama, on the above-mentioned trip, he had observed a sketch of the suspect killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in a Mobile, Alabama, newspaper and immediately felt that the driver of the above-described Rambler automobile closely resembled that sketch. He said that the driver of that car was about 35 years of age, had brown or black hair, with a receding hairline and had a thin face. He said that he noticed dark colored clothing hanging in the back seat of that Rambler automobile.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

BEN LYNN HART appeared at the Canton Police Department with his attorney, W. S. CAIN.

CAIN was advised by the interviewing Agents that they wished to question HART concerning his whereabouts on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and that for the interviewing Agents to effect this interview, HART would have to be questioned without CAIN's interruption.

CAIN advised he had no objection to HART being questioned and said, "LYNN tell them what they want to know."

HART advised on Thursday, April 4, 1968, he remembered being on his father's farm working in the afternoon.

HART advised he might have had coffee with a SNOOKY RAY and a Mr. JAMES later in the afternoon, but he could not be sure about this. HART advised that he was home at his apartment at 213 East Peace Street watching the television program "Cimarron Strip" when the television announced the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HART advised he then telephoned his parents' home to determine if they had heard the announcement.

HART advised he left his apartment at approximately 9:00 to 9:15 P.M., and went to the Ranch Restaurant, Canton, Mississippi, returning home at approximately 10:00 P.M., where he retired for the evening.

The interviewing Agents asked HART if there was anyone who could physically account for his presence between 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and HART advised that he could think of no one

On 4/7/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-113
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and SA ANTHONY E. DANIELS:JRP:ba1 Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

who was in his presence at that time who could vouch for his whereabouts.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	BEN LYNN HART
Address	213 East Peace Street Canton, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5 feet, 10 inches
Weight	160-170 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Hazel
Date of Birth	February 4, 1935
Place of Birth	Canton, Mississippi
Military	None
Occupation	Farms - self-employed
Marital status	Divorcee
Children	One
Wife resides in	Humble, Texas
Mother	MAUDE ETHEL HART
Father	GORDON HART
Parents reside in	Canton, Mississippi

At this point, Attorney CAIN stated that he could assure the interviewing Agents that HART was not of the caliber to do such a thing. SA JERRY R. PARKER advised CAIN that the interviewing Agents do not investigate calibers, but only carry out their job.

CAIN advised at this point that he understood that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was just doing their job, and rose and left with HART.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

AFTON BOLDING, 213 Dinkins Street, and Manager of the Ranch Restaurant, advised that BEN HART is a good customer of his, and that BOLDING is sure that HART was at the restaurant on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

BOLDING advised that HART was there at approximately 5:00 to 5:30 P.M., and again approximately from 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. BOLDING advised this date sticks in his mind because EVA HARGIN was at the restaurant paying for everyone's coffee.

BOLDING was contacted later on the same day and advised that HARGIN had told the interviewing Agents she was at home sick in bed all day, Thursday, April 4, 1968, and bought the coffee at the restaurant on Friday, April 5, 1968.

BOLDING advised he would not take an oath whether HART was at the restaurant on Thursday, April 4, 1968. BOLDING advised that HART is in and out everyday, but BOLDING advised he could not swear to HART's being present on Thursday, April 4, 1968. BOLDING advised that HART had discussed the matter with him (BOLDING) the morning of April 8, 1968, concerning whether HART was in the restaurant on April 4, 1968.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-112
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

EVA H. HARGIN, Route 3, Box 183, Canton, Mississippi, advised that she was home sick in bed all day, Thursday, April 4, 1968, and did not get out of bed until Friday morning, April 5, 1968.

HARGIN advised she was in the Ranch Restaurant purchasing coffee for everyone on Friday, April 5, 1968, at approximately 4:30 to 5:30 P.M.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572.111
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN; JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

ETHEL RINGS, 213 East Peace Street, advised she is the landlady of BEN HART.

RINGS advised that HART is a good tenant and is very quiet when he comes and goes and has caused her no problems. RINGS advised she is sure she saw HART sometime on Thursday, April 4, 1968. RINGS advised it was in the afternoon that she was sure she saw him, but she is unsure about the evening.

RINGS advised she sees him everyday and it would be very unusual not seeing him sometime during the day, and she would definitely remember not seeing him. RINGS advised that as an example of this, HART was gone all day Saturday, April 6, 1968, and she remembered not seeing him that day.

RINGS advised that HART usually goes out around 9:00 P.M. in the evening, as RINGS is usually going to bed, and RINGS does not know when he returns.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-110
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

BETTY HART WATKINS, 207 East Peace Street, advised that BEN HART is her cousin.

WATKINS advised that she sees HART every morning as he leaves, probably to go to his mother's to have breakfast.

WATKINS advised that since she does see her cousin every morning, it would stick in her mind if for some reason she did not see him on a particular day.

WATKINS advised that she was sure, therefore, that her cousin, BEN HART, was at his apartment on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

WATKINS advised she could not pinpoint HART being at his apartment during the afternoon or the evening of April 4, 1968

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-872-109
by SA JERRY R. PARKER/ and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

MAUDE ETHEL HART, Route 2, Canton, Mississippi, advised that her son, BEN HART, was at her home for breakfast at approximately 9:00 A.M., on April 4, 1968.

HART advised that she went to her son's apartment at approximately 1:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and took her son soup, and that her son was in bed reading at the time.

HART advised that at approximately 6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, her son telephoned her and asked her if she had heard the newscast of MARTIN LUTHER KING being shot.

HART advised the telephone call from her son was local, and when asked how she knew it was a local call she simply stated that it had to be a local call.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-108
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

MARION JACKSON ENGLAND, JR., after being advised of the nature of the inquiry, and the identity of the interviewing Agents, was interviewed in Room 232, Holiday Inn, Highway 72, West, Corinth, Mississippi, at which time he stated that he checked into the Holiday Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, approximately 3:00 P.M. on the afternoon of April 9, 1968. He advised that he is employed as a salesman by the Westward Company, Appliance Parts Manufacturer, 7400 St. Aubin Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Concerning his whereabouts on April 4, 1968, Mr. ENGLAND stated that on April 3, 1968, he stayed at the Stonewall Jackson Motel, Highway 80, West, Jackson, Mississippi, and while in Jackson, Mississippi, called on a Mr. BRUCE COLEMAN, who is the Manager of Appliance Parts Company, Jackson, Mississippi. He stated that he stayed in Jackson, Mississippi, over the evening of April 3, 1968, and on the early morning of April 4, 1968, left Jackson, Mississippi, and drove to Mobile, Alabama, where he stayed at the Travel Lodge Motel, located on Government Street. He advised that he stayed at the Travel Lodge Motel the evening of April 4, and April 5, 1968. Mr. ENGLAND stated he arrived in Mobile, Alabama, around lunchtime on the fourth of April, and had lunch with a JAMES HYBART, who is the owner of Appliance Parts and Supply Company, 805 Church Street, Mobile, Alabama. He stated that he had lunch at Wentzel's Seafood Restaurant, Mobile, Alabama. Mr. ENGLAND also stated that he saw FRED HYBART, on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, and further stated that he did not check

On 4/10/68 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-107
by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN
SA JOHN S. CASTLES/FGH/bjk Date dictated 4/11/68

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JN 157-9586

into the Travel Lodge Motel until approximately 3:00 P.M., on April 4, 1968. He stated that he had dinner at approximately 5:00 P.M., at the Morrison's Cafeteria, Mobile, Alabama. Mr. ENGLAND further stated that due to severe sinus headaches that he has, he stayed in the motel all evening in Mobile, Alabama.

Mr. ENGLAND denied being in Memphis, Tennessee, on the evening of April 4, 1968. He further stated that he recalls on the evening of April 4, 1968, making a collect telephone call to his wife in Fort Worth, Texas, at approximately 8:00 P.M. He stated his home telephone number in Fort Worth, Texas is area code 817-Walnut 3-3688. ENGLAND stated that he drives a 1967 white Buick Le Sabre with Texas license TWW235.

The following description of ENGLAND was obtained from interview and observation:

Name:	MARION JACKSON ENGLAND, JR.
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Born:	July 27, 1927
Place of birth:	Fort Worth, Texas
Height:	6' 1"
Weight:	175 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Marital status:	Married
Wife:	ERNESTINE FRANCES ENGLAND
Residence:	2616 Ryan Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas
Employment:	Salesman, The Westward Company, 7400 St. Aubin Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

JN 157-9586

Military service: U. S. Navy, 1945
Serial number: Unknown
Driver's license: Texas Department of
Public Safety, license
number 0523707, expires
December 15, 1968
Selective service
number: 41-113-27-315
Registered: Local Board 113, Fort
Worth, Texas
Classification: 5A (September 11, 1962)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

HOMER DENTON, Night Auditor, Holiday Inn, Highway 72, West, Iuka, Mississippi, advised that his records reflect a M. J. ENGLAND registered at the motel at 2:56 P.M., on April 9, 1968, and was assigned Room 232. Mr. DENTON stated that the motel registration records reflect that ENGLAND was driving a Buick, Texas license TWW235 and listed his name as M. JACK ENGLAND, 2616 Ryan Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, employed, Westward Company. Mr. DENTON further stated his records reflect that a call was made from Room 232 to area code 901-234-0778 at 7:48 P.M. on April 9, 1968.

Mr. DENTON further stated that the reservation in the Holiday Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, was made from a Holiday Inn, Decatur, Illinois.

On 4/10/68 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 - 572-106

7811 SA FRANCIS G. HONAN
by *JE* SA JOHN S. CASTLES/FGH/bjk Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

RICHARD H. SIMS, 327 Elm, manager, Downtowner Motor Inn, Clarksdale, Mississippi, furnished the original registration card dated April 4, 1968, in the name of BILLY RAY KING, 102 Arlington Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana.

On 4/8/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-105
by SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

J. LYNN PITTS, 1625 Herrin Street, registration clerk, Downtowner Motor Inn, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that he was on duty at the motel from 11:00 PM, April 4, 1968, to 7:00 AM, April 5, 1968. He did not observe BILLY RAY KING, who was registered in Room 225; however, he recalled placing a 5:00 AM telephone call to that room on April 5, 1968, and he believed that a man answered the room telephone.

He did not observe KING leave the motel, and KING did not check out at the desk while PITTS was on duty. He did not observe a blue Mustang with Louisiana license in the vicinity of the motel during the above period. He added that Room 225 is in the rear of the motel and is not visible from the lobby.

On 4/8/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-104
by SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

MYRTLE CALDWELL, 319 Lynn Street, Clarksdale, Mississippi, registration clerk, Downtowner Motor Inn, Clarksdale, furnished the following information:

She recalled that she registered a guest using the name BILLY RAY KING in room 225 at the Downtowner Motor Inn, Clarksdale, at about 10:12 PM on April 4, 1968. She recalled that she paid for the room, cash in advance, in the amount of \$7.84. He claimed to be from Lake Providence, Louisiana.

He claimed that he had been put off the bus at Clarksdale and that he was trying to meet a boat. He did not say where he was to meet the boat. He stated that buses were not being allowed to enter Memphis, Tennessee.

Just after he registered he placed a long-distance collect telephone call through the pay telephone located in the lobby of the motel. He advised her that he was expecting the party whom he called to return his call. He did receive a long-distance person-to-person call shortly thereafter in his room, before 11:00 PM.

She described KING as a white male, in his twenties, six feet tall or slightly taller, 170 pounds, slender or medium build, dark hair, wearing a light shirt, open at the neck and several buttons open, exposing a portion of his chest and revealing no undershirt.

She stated that KING was a stranger to her, and she did not know of anyone who visited him in his room. She went off duty at 11:00 PM and stayed at the motel until midnight.

On 4/8/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-103
by SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

J. W. WARREN, Investigator, Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP), Holly Springs, Mississippi, furnished the following information to the interviewing Agents:

Investigator WARREN stated that one ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN of Plain Field, Illinois, was arrested by the Holly Springs, Mississippi, Police Department on April 8, 1968 on a charge of suspicion.

WARREN stated that from the information he obtained SHERIDAN checked into the Holly Inn Motel, located on Highway 78 in Holly Springs, Mississippi on the evening of April 7, 1968. SHERIDAN'S arrest was the result of his, SHERIDAN'S, questionable actions. WARREN explained that SHERIDAN apparently attempted to rent his motel room at the Holly Inn Restaurant to two unknown truck drivers, after he, SHERIDAN, checked into the motel. WARREN explained that it was subsequently determined that SHERIDAN was without any type of funds and was driving a 1966 Cadillac, white over gold in color, bearing 1968 Illinois license HJ167, VIN J6263092.

WARREN stated that he initially interviewed SHERIDAN and determined that he was from Plain Field, Illinois, and was in the interior design business in that city. WARREN stated that he also determined that SHERIDAN had checked into the Rip Van Winkle Motel in Millington, Tennessee on April 4, 1968 and that he reportedly still maintained a room at this motel.

WARREN determined that SHERIDAN was known to the Aurora, Illinois, Police Department, and was apparently considered a mental case. WARREN further commented that he telephonically contact RICHARD BONYA of Plain Field, Illinois and determined that SHERIDAN was in fact, the owner of a 1966

On 4/8/68 at HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-542-102
by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU and
SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. RTR/jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

Cadillac and further, that SHERIDAN had been hospitalized for a mental problem. BONYA reportedly advised WARREN that SHERIDAN left the hospital in Aurora, Illinois prior to actually being released. WARREN stated that SHERIDAN reportedly walked out of the hospital on April 2, 1968.

WARREN further stated that RICHARD BONYA was immediately leaving Plain Field, Illinois en route to Holly Springs, Mississippi to pick up SHERIDAN and transport him back to Illinois.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

STANLEY E. SMYTHE was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. SMYTHE then furnished the following information at his place of employment, the Mississippi Power and Light Company in Fayette, Mississippi.

When asked about his activities on the night of April 3, 1968, SMYTHE stated that he got off work at about 5:30 and then went home. SMYTHE stated that he was home all evening and did not leave the house. He stated he does not remember being at Jack Wright's Cafe on this particular evening. When asked if he had made any kind of statement concerning Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., on this particular evening, SMYTHE advised that while he was at the town clerk's office he did make the statement that when MARTIN LUTHER KING went to Memphis on April 4, 1968, he would be killed. He said he made this statement only as a passing remark and did not intend it to be a threat. SMYTHE stated that in fact many people had been talking about the fact that MARTIN LUTHER KING someday would be killed due to his radical attitudes and activities. SMYTHE stated that the last time he was in Memphis, Tennessee, was sometime back in 1965.

The following is a description of STANLEY E. SMYTHE obtained through interview and observation:

Name -	STANLEY E. SMYTHE
Race -	White
Sex -	Male
Date of Birth -	November 29, 1917
Place of Birth -	New Orleans, Louisiana
Height -	5'11½"
Weight -	197 pounds
Hair -	Curly, black, graying
Eyes -	Blue
Complexion -	Ruddy

On 4/8/68 at Fayette, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-101

by SA MICHAEL J. O'NEILL/pac *mjo* Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

Build -	Medium to stocky
Address -	Post Office Box 296, Fayette, Mississippi
Marital Status -	Divorced
Automobile -	1966 Pontiac Executive four door, 1968 Mississippi License 32-109
Army Serial Number -	34074933
Social Security Number -	439-05-1982
Weapons -	Smith and Wesson snub nosed .38 caliber

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mrs. MARIAN LILLY, I.B.E.W. Local 605, 116 Clairborne, Jackson, Mississippi, advised BILLY D. MC GRIFF is a member of their local. She states that during the week April 1 - April 5, 1968, MC GRIFF and 33 other electricians were working for L. E. Myers Company in Sardis, Mississippi. She states MC GRIFF returned to Jackson, Mississippi, in the afternoon of April 5, 1968. She advised MC GRIFF is presently working on a job in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and the name of this job could be determined through Local Union 995, 405 St. Ferdinand Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Mrs. LILLY stated she had talked with MC GRIFF when he returned on April 5, 1968, and MC GRIFF had stated that he had been in Memphis on April 4, 1968, when Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was assassinated. She stated MC GRIFF did not elaborate on what he was doing there, but understood that their job in Sardis, Mississippi, had been "rained out" and that MC GRIFF and some of the other electricians had driven to Memphis, Tennessee. She advised she does not know where MC GRIFF stayed, nor what he was doing, nor what he did in Memphis, Tennessee.

On 4/10/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-100
by SA WILLIAM BLACKKETTER and SA ANTHONY E. DANIELS:WB:bal Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

GEORGE JONES, 225 Oak Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that Mrs. VIRGINIA RAY is his wife's cousin and that Mrs. RAY told him that the photograph which appeared in the Jackson newspapers on April 19, 1968, appeared to look like her husband, JAMES (no middle name) RAY.

JONES said he was at the Oak Street address in September, 1967, when VIRGINIA RAY showed up with a man whom she introduced as her husband. JONES said VIRGINIA and her husband spent one day and one night at the Oak Street address and left early the following morning. RAY took GEORGE JONES' shotgun, pointed it at VIRGINIA, and said he was going to kill her. JOYCE JONES, wife of GEORGE JONES, stepped in between them and JAMES RAY fled the house and has not been seen since that time.

JONES said that the previous evening he accompanied RAY to a local beverage store where RAY obtained two or three pints of whiskey. He said that in his opinion, RAY was nothing but an alcoholic.

GEORGE JONES described RAY's vehicle as being a 1967 white Malibu with red upholstery and the two front fenders severely dented.

JONES furnished the following description of RAY:

Name	JAMES RAY
Sex	Male
Race	White
Height	6'
Weight	180 pounds
Age	Approximately 40 years
Characteristics	Had a red face and appeared to be an alcoholic.

On 4/20/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-99
by SA's JOHN L. PUDDISTER and JAMES W. AWE: JLP/cmb Date dictated 4/23/68

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JN 157-9586

Numerous photographs were exhibited to GEORGE JONES, among which was a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY. JONES said none of the photographs exhibited appeared to look like JAMES RAY, VIRGINIA's husband.

The photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was singularly pointed out to JONES. He commented that this definitely was not VIRGINIA RAY's husband.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

Mr. F. A. JACO, home address, 225 Oak Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that he is the grandfather of VIRGINIA RAY.

Mr. JACO advised that in September, 1967, VIRGINIA RAY visited his home with a man whom she introduced as her husband, JAMES RAY.

Several photographs were exhibited to Mr. JACO. He advised that none of these photographs resembled the individual introduced to him as JAMES RAY.

A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was singularly exhibited to Mr. JACO. He advised that this was definitely not the man who VIRGINIA RAY introduced to him as her husband.

On 4/20/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-98
by SA's JOHN L. PUDDISTER & JAMES W. AWE: JLP/cmb Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

Mrs. VERA JACO, home address 225 Oak Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that she is the grandmother of VIRGINIA RAY.

Mrs. JACO advised that in September, 1967, VIRGINIA RAY visited her home with a man whom she introduced as her husband, JAMES RAY.

Several photographs were exhibited to Mrs. JACO. She advised that none of these photographs resembled the individual introduced to her as JAMES RAY.

A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was singularly exhibited to Mrs. JACO. She advised that this was definitely not the man who VIRGINIA RAY introduced to her as her husband.

On 4/20/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-97
by SA's JOHN L. PUDDISTER & JAMES W. AWE: JLP/cmb Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

Mrs. GEORGE JONES (JOYCE), home address 225 Oak Street, Jackson, Mississippi, after viewing several photographs exhibited to her, commented that none of these photographs looked like the JAMES RAY whom her cousin, VIRGINIA, introduced as her husband.

The photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was singularly exhibited to Mrs. JONES. She commented that this was definitely not the man that VIRGINIA RAY introduced as her husband.

On 4/20/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-96
by SA's JOHN L. PUDDISTER & JAMES W. AWE: JLP/cmb Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

Miss MARIE JACO, 225 Oak Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that VIRGINIA RAY is her niece.

Several photographs were exhibited to Miss JACO and she commented she could not recall having met any of these individuals.

The photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was singularly exhibited to Miss JACO. She advised that this photograph was definitely not a photograph of the man that her niece, VIRGINIA RAY, introduced to her as her husband in September, 1967.

On 4/20/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-95
by SA's JOHN L. PUDDISTER & JAMES W. AWE: JLP/cmb Date dictated 4/23/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)Date April 20, 1968

Mrs. VIRGINIA RAY, home address 944 Inge Street, Jackson, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

On the evening of September 5, 1967, in the early evening hours, VIRGINIA UMFRESS (RAY), was at her place of employment, the Rainbow Inn, Slatillo, Mississippi, talking to the bartender, LAWRENCE WEBB and a customer whom she met for the first time by the name of JAMES RAY.

VIRGINIA UMFRESS RAY stated that on the trip back to Mississippi she recalled sleeping most of the way and no conversation. She described the vehicle that they were riding in as a 1967 Malibu, white in color with red upholstery. She said the two front fenders had severe dents in them and RAY mentioned that he had hit a bridge. Upon returning to Mississippi they drove to Tupelo to the trailer which UMFRESS had been living in just South of Tupelo on Highway 45 South.

She advised that they arrived in Tupelo around 5:00 P. M., on September 6, 1967, and they stayed at her trailer for the night. The next morning around 10:00 A. M., on September 7, 1967, after much discussion they drove to

On 4/20/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-94
by SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER:yv Date dictated 4/20/68

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JN 157-9586

Jackson, Mississippi, to pick up VIRGINIA UMFRESS RAY's two year old son.

At this point, VIRGINIA UMFRESS RAY advised that her maiden name is VIRGINIA JACO and that in January, 1964, she married JOHNNY WAYNE UMFRESS who is employed as a carpenter with a company in Itawamba County, Mississippi. She divorced this man in 1966 and he still lives in Fulton, Mississippi.

JAMES RAY at first refused to drive to Jackson, Mississippi, however, she convinced him to come along with her. They left Tupelo, Mississippi, around 10:00 A. M., on September 7, 1967, and drove straight down to Jackson, Mississippi, arriving in the middle of the afternoon. They went directly to her grandparents, F. A. and VERA JACO, with whom her two year old son had been boarding at 225 Oak Street, Jackson.

VIRGINIA RAY said she went into her grandparents' house by herself while JAMES RAY, her new husband, made a gasoline purchase at the Sinclair Service Station across the street from her grandparents house. She said JAMES RAY used a Sinclair credit card in making all gasoline purchases.

At her grandparents' home she introduced JAMES RAY to her cousin GEORGE JONES, his wife JOYCE JONES, and her aunt, MARIE JACO, as well as her grandparents. She explained that her grandparents' home has separate apartments and that her cousin MARIE JACO, GEORGE and JOYCE JONES have separate apartments.

They remained overnight at the Oak Street address and between 6:00 and 7:00 A. M., when she got up, JAMES RAY said they were leaving for California. She said she refused to go and that RAY picked up GEORGE JONES's shotgun, pointed

it at her stomach and said he was going to kill her. At this point her cousin JOYCE JONES came into the room and stepped between them and told RAY that he would have to kill her first. JAMES RAY hesitated for a moment, turned and ran out of the house. He got in his car and drove away taking the shotgun with him. VIRGINIA RAY said she has not seen JAMES RAY since and has heard nothing about him or from him since that time.

A short while after this incident she realized that sometime during the night or early morning RAY had taken the marriage license out of her overnight bag which she had picked up the morning before at the trailer in Tupelo. He also took a bronze horse trophy from the mantle.

Upon seeing the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY in the Jackson newspapers on April 19, 1968, she immediately thought it strongly resembled JAMES RAY, her missing husband.

VIRGINIA RAY furnished the following information concerning the contents of the 1967 Malibu in the possession of JAMES RAY:

A large blue Samsonite type suitcase which appeared to be the largest size. She described it as a hard finish airplane type luggage.

A black cloth type bag with a zipper across the top and handles. The lining of the cloth bag appeared to be plaid. Inside the bag was a current Alabama license plate and a current Mississippi license plate. She then recalled that the Malibu had Tennessee tags on it all during the period she was with RAY. She said she recalled asking RAY why he had the extra license plates and he said he needed them in his business. He said his business was that of a musician and that he played a guitar.

He had numerous cosmetic type kits which only women would use. She was not able to further describe the cosmetics other than it struck her as odd that he would have these items.

In the trunk of the car he had the small bronze horse trophy and a pair of expensive looking lizard skin riding boots.

RAY claimed to have been associated with horse shows and won the trophy at a horse show.

VIRGINIA RAY furnished the following physical description of her husband:

Name	JAMES (no middle name) RAY
Age	41 years (according to RAY in September, 1967)
Sex	Male
Race	White
Height	5 feet 11 inches
Hair	Light brown, cut very short, less than ½ inches long.
Eyes	Bluish gray
Complexion	Light with ruddy or rough face.
Scars	Had severe scars across the back of each hand. Scars went across from one side to the other between the knuckles and the wrist.
	Had a small prominent scars on forehead to one side or the other in the center.
Tattoos	Had a large tattoo of a battleship across his upper back. The colors on this tattoo were very bright and not faded.
	Had a small tattoo on the calf of one leg reading "Hell Hole".

Could not recall which leg.
This tattoo located just
below the knee off to the
side.

Other characteristics

Upper front teeth missing
Had a full or partial upper
plate.
Drank continuously. Any kind
but usually Four Roses, also
had moonshine whiskey, white
in color, smoking nothing
but Pall Mall cigarettes.

Just prior to shaving his
beard appeared to be medium
to light in color.

Upon inquiry, Mrs. RAY said she noticed nothing
peculiar about her husband's ears. She said his eyebrows
were average and brown in color.

The most peculiar thing about him other than the
tattoos, was the fact that he addressed everyone as "hoss".
Numerous times while speaking he would use the word "hoss"
to the person who happened to be speaking to.

The only thing she could recall about his facial
expression was the color of his eyes, bluish gray, and the
fact that his eyes frightened her more than anything else.
She could not recall anything peculiar about his smile.
She then added that she did not recall ever seeing him
smile.

Mrs. RAY said that her grandparents, F. A. and
VERA JACO, her cousin JOYCE and her husband GEORGE and
her aunt MARIE JACO all saw JAMES RAY. She said they
too feel there is a resemblance between the photograph of
JAMES EARL RAY which appeared in the Jackson newspapers
on April 19, 1968, and her husband. She said that the
previous photograph which appeared in the Jackson newspapers
prior to April 19, 1968, did not resemble her husband. It

was the photograph which appeared on April 19, 1968, which prompted her to call the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She said she has no information concerning the whereabouts of JAMES RAY since she last saw him on September 8, 1967.

Mrs. RAY then added that on the morning of September 8, 1967, after JAMES RAY hurriedly left her grandparents' home her cousin JOYCE JONES and her husband GEORGE JONES drove her back to Tupelo, Mississippi, to her rented trailer home.

Upon arriving there shortly before 5:00 P. M., she noticed that the door of the trailer was ajar approximately three or four inches. She recalled that she had given the key to the trailer to her husband.

When she entered the trailer she noticed some items were missing. The first thing she noticed was that her portable record player and 50 or 60 albums, mostly country music were missing. She thought the record player was a True Tone portable model.

A portable radio, make unknown, described as one that played with batteries or plug-in type, was missing.

A Brownie Holiday Flash Camera was missing.

A Dominion Portable hair dryer was missing.

Several sweaters, three pairs of her shoes and six dresses just back from the cleaners were missing.

She said that a picture of her mother which she described as being in an elaborate frame was also missing and in addition, a picture album of the family was missing.

Her cousin GEORGE, age 18 years, started her automobile, a 1955 Buick, blue and white in color in that she could not get it started herself. Her cousin GEORGE, discovered that some foreign substance had been placed in the gas tank causing the fuel line to be clogged.

After GEORGE JONES got her car started she drove it back to Jackson following GEORGE and JOYCE in their car.

She said they arrived in Jackson around 9:00 or 10:00 P. M., that night, September 8, 1967. She remained at her grandparents' house and lived there for a while.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	VIRGINIA RAY
Sex	Female
Race	White
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Clarksdale, Mississippi
Height	5 feet 7 inches
Weight	185 pounds
Hair	brown
Eyes	Blue
Previous address	Moved to Jackson in 1959, graduated from Central High School in 1961 and returned to Tupelo, Mississippi in 1962.
Marriages	Met JOHNNY WAYNE UMFRESS in Tupelo, January 1963, and married him 1964. Divorced him 1966. Married JAMES RAY, Jasper, Alabama, on September 6, 1967.

JN 157-9586

Employment

Barmaid, Rainbow Inn,
Salttillo, Mississippi,
September 1967,
National Industries,
Jackson, Mississippi,
from September 17, 1967,
to April 1968.

Current employment

N. W. Manufacturing Company,
Jackson, Mississippi.

Working hours

7:30 A. M., to 4:00 P. M.
Monday through Friday.

Telephone

None

In further describing JAMES RAY, Mrs. RAY said the first time she met him he was wearing plaid type trousers and a brown shirt. She said he was just an average dresser, nothing peculiar, seldom wore suits during the three days she knew him.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 19, 1968

JAMES AIKENS, Superintendent, Welding Department, Ingall's Ship Building Corporation, advised that AARON ISAAC LOFTON works under his direct supervision and that he sees LOFTON on a daily basis. He said that he can say positively that LOFTON has been to work each working day during the month of April. He said that to be even more positive of this he had checked with the Assistant Superintendent and the Assistant agreed with him that he had also seen LOFTON at work each working day this month and specifically on April 4 and 5, 1968.

On 4/17/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-93
by SA JAMES J. FILES: yv Date dictated 4/18/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

AARON ISAAC LOFTON was interviewed at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi. He advised he has been employed there since July, 1965, and that he resided with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. AARON A. LOFTON on Martin Bluff Road, Gautier, Mississippi. He has long been interested in ballroom dancing and worked as a dancing instructor at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio in New Orleans, Louisiana from about January to July, 1958. He then went to Jacksonville, Florida, where he taught dancing at the Fred Astair Studio for about one year beginning about July, 1958. While in Jacksonville, he began a course in court reporting, but dropped out of this course and entered a school for hair styling. After completing this course, he worked as a professional hair stylist in Atlanta, Georgia from about 1959 to 1963 when he went to California. He worked at Anaheim, California and Los Angeles as a hair stylist until he returned to Mississippi and obtained employment at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation in 1965.

LOFTON said the names JOHN WILLARD and HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER meant nothing to him. He was shown two artist's conceptions of two white males. He said he does not recall ever having known anyone who closely resembled either of these.

LOFTON was asked whether he had known anyone named GALT. He said he feels sure he has never known anyone by this name. He said the name is very familiar to him, as he is familiar with the character in the novel "Atlas Shrugged" who was called GALT, and he does not recall ever coming across that name again until very recently when the name appeared in the national press

On 4/16-17/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-92
by SA'S JAMES J. FILES, and
PETER H. CROOKS/JJF:brh Date dictated 4/17/68

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JN 157-9586

in connection with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

LOFTON advised that on the day KING was killed, he worked at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation and went home at about 3:30 p.m. He first heard of the shooting on television that evening and later the same evening he went to the home of BEN WOOD, Gautier, Mississippi, to play poker. While there, he learned that KING had died.

LOFTON furnished the following details of his background:

He was born in West Lincoln Community, Lincoln County, Mississippi on October 28, 1934. During World War II, his father, AARON ALTON LOFTON, worked for the Ross Gravel Company near Pitkin, Louisiana, and he believes he went to the Sand Hill rural school.

Still during the War, his family moved to De Ridder, Louisiana where his father worked for a gravel company. He believes they moved back to Lincoln County for a short time. Then to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where his father worked for the Standard Oil Refinery from about late 1944 to early 1945.

The family moved to Natchez, Mississippi in about 1945 and stayed for about one year. They then moved to Summitt, Mississippi where they remained until AARON finished the eighth grade in the Spring of 1949. The family then moved to Hazelhurst, Mississippi, where his father worked as a mechanic in a clothing factory. AARON attended the Hazelhurst High School, graduating in May, 1953.

AARON left the family home in Mississippi in May, 1953 and moved to Jackson where he attended Draughn's Business College for six months. He lived then at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), then at a rooming house near the YMCA. Then in the Fall of 1953, he moved back to Summitt, Mississippi and stayed with his parents until January, 1955, when he went into the United States Army. During this period from late 1953 to the Fall of 1954, he worked at the McComb Manufacturing Company, MC Comb, Mississippi. In the Fall of 1954, he entered Southwest Mississippi Junior College and attended one semester before going into the Army.

During his Army career, he first went to Fort Jackson, South Carolina from January to April, 1955. Then he went to Fort Devens, Massachusetts from April to October, 1955. Then to Brookley Field, Mobile, Alabama for about one week. Then to the Panama Canal Zone from October, 1955 to October, 1957. In October, 1957, he was transferred to the Walter Reed Army Hospital, Washington, D. C., where he stayed for two weeks being treated for a disease of the ear. He was then released to inactive duty and went to his parent's home, who had now moved to a residence near McComb, Mississippi. He was placed in inactive duty at this time and remained in the Reserves until he had completed a total of eight years service. He received an honorable discharge in 1962. He said this discharge was upon his completion of his military obligation and was not due to disability or disciplinary action. He said he was released from active duty a few weeks early because of his ear problem.

He stayed at his parent's home from October to November, 1957, then went to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he resided with a friend, JAMES VAN, an employee

JN 157-9586

of WWL Television Station, on West Plum Street, from November, 1957 to January, 1958, and was employed as a sales clerk by D H HOLMES Department Store. He had met JAMES VAN through a mutual Army friend, ROBERT BARBER.

In January, 1958, he moved to a location on St. Ann Street in the French Quarter, exact address unrecalled and at about that time obtained a job teaching dancing in the Arthur Murray Studio. He left this job and this residence on about July 4, 1958 and moved to Jacksonville, Florida.

In Jacksonville, Florida, he rented a cottage with an old Army friend, ROBERT J. BARBER. This cottage, exact address unrecalled, was owned by an attorney named DOUGLAS. He went to work at Fred Astair's Studio in July, 1958 and continued there until November, 1958. From about March, 1958, he was part-time employed and attended school at the Stenographer's Institute for Court Reporting for about one month and then he transferred to the American Hair Styling Academy owned by MICHAEL ANGELO GAGLRANO until November, 1959.

In November, 1959, he moved to Atlanta, Georgia and again stayed with ROBERT BARBER, whose mother had purchased a house there. He stayed at this residence, 1164 Ogilvie Drive, for about two months. He said that BARBER is now manager of a prominent clothing store at Charlotte, North Carolina. This store, name unrecalled, has a principal branch or main store in Atlanta.

He lived at 343 8th Street, Atlanta from February, 1961 to the Fall of 1961 in an apartment he shared with JAMES LINDLEY who he met at this apartment building. Both he and LINDLEY moved to 1284 Piedmont in the Fall of 1961 and stayed until January, 1962. They then moved to 602 Ansley Forest

JN 157-9586

Drive, where they lived from January, 1962 to September, 1962. LOFTON then went to California, but LINDLEY remained and probably still lives in the same apartment. LINDLEY was employed as an estimator for the Mead Company in Atlanta.

During the period LOFTON lived in Atlanta, he worked as a hair stylist for Ricardo's Beauty Salon, 1738 Peachtree Street for about one year. Then at Rich's Department Store Salon for about one year, then at the Chalet Salong 2175 Cheshire Boulevard, for two or three months. Then back to Rich's Department Store from about March to October, 1962, when he moved to Los Angeles.

On arriving in Los Angeles, he lived in a motel for about three weeks while obtaining a beauty operators license, and received his mail at 8611 Truxton Avenue, Los Angeles, which was address of the Weschester International Beauty College, where he took a refresher course to obtain his license. He then lived at 103 Autumn Drive, Anaheim, California from about November, 1962 to July, 1963, and worked at a small shop owned by JAMES VICTOR, who operated the above mentioned school.

He then moved to Los Angeles, 924 Hancock Avenue, and worked for another shop owned by JAMES VICTOR.

He then moved to 1231 North Sweetzer Avenue, Los Angeles and lived there from October, 1964 to February, 1965, and worked in the beauty salon at May Company Department Store. Then in about February, 1965, he moved back to his parent's home at McComb, Mississippi. He noted that between his residence at Anaheim and Los Angeles, he went back to Atlanta for about six weeks and stayed at his old residence there.

At McComb, he worked for the Howell Motor Company selling Volkswagon from February, 1965 to April

or May, 1965 and quit due to difficulty with uclers. He said he was employed until about July, 1955 and he and his family moved to Pascagoula, Mississippi, where his parents had previously purchased property. They lived in a residence on United States Highway 90 in Gautier west of Pascagoula for about two months. Then the family moved to 1915 Ferry, Moss Point, Mississippi, until July, 1966, when they moved into a new home which they had built on their property at Gautier, Mississippi.

LOFTON was employed by Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation in July, 1965 and attended the Man Power Development and Training School operated by that company until November, when he went to work. He has continued his employment there to the present time and is employed in the testing laboratory in the welding department.

LOFTON said that he moved and changed occupations often between the time he was released from military service to 1965 because he was footloose and enjoyed moving around. He said he chose to go to Jacksonville, Florida because his friend, ROBERT BARBER, was there and that he moved on to Atlanta because BARBER had moved to Atlanta before him and had informed him that the hair styling field was good in Atlanta. He said while in Atlanta, he met JAMES VICTOR, who owns several beauty salons in California, at a hair dressing show in Atlanta and that VICTOR asked him to move to California. He said he left the hair styling occupation in 1965 for numerous reasons, some of which were it was an unstable business, he had developed ulcers, and from the tension of trying to please so many women and further that his family wanted him to return home.

LOFTON stated that during the periods he lived in New Orleans, Jacksonville, Atlanta and California, he could not recall knowing anyone well who was strongly racist or rabidly right wing. He said he is a member of the Young Republicans and while in Los Angeles, was actually working for GOLDWATER. In this capacity, he casually met numerous people who were rabidly anti-GOLDWATER and numerous other people who were rabidly anti-Communist,

but that he was never close to them and did not really know them. He said that he still belongs to the Young Republicans and is County Chairman of the organization in Jackson County, Mississippi. He said this is a small unit and he knows of no one connected with it who has radical or violent views. He said the only other organizations he belongs to are the American Welding Society and the Little Theater in Pascagoula.

Regarding his foreign travel, LOFTON advised that he visited Niagara Falls, Canada, from July 2-4, 1955. He went with some military friends to visit while assigned to Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

He took a vacation trip from April 15, to May 1, 1967 to Mexico. He drove by automobile with NORWOOD BROWN, who owns Norwood Music Store in Savannah, Georgia, BOB HOPPER, a casual acquaintance who worked for a railroad at Atlanta, and BILL (last name unknown), a friend of BROWN from Savannah. He said they entered Mexico at Brownsville, Texas, having obtained a passport in Atlanta. They traveled through the northern portion of Mexico visiting Tosco, Acapulco, Mexico City and some small towns. They left Mexico at Laredo, Texas and drove back to Atlanta. They traveled in a new Ford convertible owned by BOB HOPPER. He said in 1965 he made a one day trip into Encenado, Mexico from Los Angeles, a boarder town, just for a visit. He said he spoke some Spanish which he learned in the Canal Zone. He attended night school at Balboa Junior College there.

He said he had his Southwest Junior College credits transferred to this school. He also had his credits sent to Los Angeles City College where he enrolled, but did not complete three liberal arts courses. In August, 1967, he called CHARLES BRELAND, Registrar at Southwest Junior College and asked him to send his transcript to him, which he needed to attend Jackson County Junior College. He said he has not been on the campus of Southwest Junior College since 1965. LOFTON said he also had his credits sent to the Memphis

Academy of Arts in about 1957 or 1958 on the recommendation of ROBERT BARBER who is originally from Jackson, Tennessee, but that he did not attend this school. He has passed through Memphis about three times, but has no contacts there and has no relatives there.

He said he traveled in Mexico and from Jacksonville to Atlanta and Los Angeles and then Jackson, Tennessee where BARBER had lived, in 1967 went to Omaha, Nebraska to attend a Young Republican convention.

He said that he owns a 1968 Volkswagon fast-back which he purchased in December, 1967, and he previously owned a 1967 Volkswagon Square-back. He owns no other cars.

He said he owns a .22 caliber revolver with a four inch barrel which he purchased at Gibson's Discount Center in McComb, Mississippi in 1968, but does not recall the brand name. He owns no other gun, but his father has several sporting guns including a shotgun and a .22 rifle, but no high powered rifle.

He said his hobbies are hunting, fishing, the Little Theater and dancing.

He said that his friends are Mr. and Mrs. JOHN GAUTIER, Mr. GAUTIER is an attorney in Pascagoula, and his wife is an officer of the Young Republicans; Mr. and Mrs. BEN WOOD, who live in Gautier, Mississippi, Mr. WOOD works for Phelps Jewelry Store; and also JIM and GRACE WILSON, WILSON is night superintendent of the Jackson Grain Elevator.

LOFTON listed the following relatives:

Father

AARON ALTON LOFTON,
Sewing machine mechanic,
BVD, Pascagoula, Mississippi

Mother

AGNES LOU NUNNERY LOFTON,
employed at BVD, Pascagoula,
Mississippi

Brother

BILLIE JOE LOFTON, married,
resides Gautier, Mississippi,
and employed Student Director,
Jackson County Junior College,
No other brothers or sisters

Mother's sisters

Mrs. GEORGESPRING, McComb,
Mississippi,
Mrs. HARVEY COWART, Smith-
dale, Mississippi

Mother's brother

H. G. NUNNERY, career air-
man, United States Air Force,
Wright-Patterson Field,
Ohio.

Father's brother

CHARLES LOFTON, Baton Rouge,
Louisiana

Father's sister

Mrs. HORIS RUSHING, Brook-
haven, Mississippi

Half-brothers

P. C. LOFTON, rural route,
Brookhaven, Mississippi

TOM LOFTON, rural route,
Mc Comb, Mississippi

Half sister

EMMA PORTER, address unknown

LOFTON said he has never been arrested and has received
only one traffic ticket in his life.

LOFTON stated that none of his associates resemble
the artist's conceptions mentioned above which had been
shown to him.

JN 157-9586

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	AARON ISAAC LOFTON
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	10/28/34
Place of birth	Lincoln County, Mississippi
Height	5'11½"
Weight	165
Hair	Sandy-blond
Eyes	Hazel
Complexion	Fair-ruddy
Characteristics	Wears horn-rimmed glasses, smokes Spring or Kent Cigaretts
Army serial numbers	NG 24919772 RA 24919772
Social Security Number	425-56-6202
Education	One year of college and trade schools
Residence	Martin Bluff Road, Gautier, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. V. H. FEDERIC, Paymaster, Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, furnished the following information from records of his office regarding AARON I. LOFTON, Social Security Number 425-56-6206, Clock Number 12724, and who is currently assigned to Department Number 68, with that corporation:

For the pay week ending March 31, 1968, LOFTON worked 50.5 hours of regular work hours, and 7.3 hours of over time hours.

For the pay week ending April 7, 1968, LOFTON worked 40.0 hours of regular work hours and no over time.

The individual time cards for LOFTON for the period March 29, 1968, through April 4, 1968, disclosed the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Clock In</u>	<u>Clock Out</u>
March 29, 1968	6:47 A.M.	3:30 P.M.
April 1, 1968	6:51 A.M.	3:30 P.M.
April 2, 1968	6:47 A.M.	3:30 P.M.
April 3, 1968	6:48 A.M.	3:33 P.M.
April 4, 1968	6:48 A.M.	3:30 P.M.

Mr. FEDERIC stated that each of the above time cards bear the signature "AARON I. LOFTON" and after comparing these signatures with the LOFTON signature on the Security Office Active File Card, Mr. FEDERIC stated he was of the opinion that LOFTON had signed each of the time cards himself. He said that

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-91

by SA LEON ROSS GRABEN / wgj Date dictated 4/16/68

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JN 157-9586

due to the security measures and internal controls in use at that facility, it would be nearly impossible for an employee to have someone clock in and out for him each day. He said the only way this could be done would be for another employee, who would have an identification card, to clock in and out for another employee, however, when an employee failed to report for work on his shift, a check was immediately made of the employees time card to determine if the employee had clocked in. He said LOFTON received full pay for the period in question which would indicate that he actually reported for work during the period.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/19/68

Mr. WALTER POL, Security Officer, Ingall's Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, made available for review the Personnel Security Questionnaire pertaining to AARON ISAAC LOFTON dated January 11, 1966, which disclosed the following information:

Date of Birth	October-28, 1934
Place of Birth	Brookhaven, Mississippi
Sex	Male
Marital Status	Single
Height	6'
Weight	165 pounds
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Blond
Social Security Number	425-56-6206.

He has a security clearance of Secret.

He indicated that he had attended the following schools:

September, 1940, to February, 1941, Arlington Grade School, Lincoln County, Mississippi, graduate-no.

February, 1941, to January, 1943, Gravel Hill Grade School, Pitkin, Louisiana, graduate-no.

March, 1944, to October, 1944, Summit Grammar, Summit, Mississippi, graduate-no.

October, 1944, to January, 1945, Wyndot Grammar, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, graduate-no.

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-Sf2-90
by SAs DAVID P. HURLEY and LEON ROSS GRABEN: DPH/ccs Date dictated 4/17/68

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January, 1945, to June, 1945, Natchez Grammar,
Natchez, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1945, to June, 1948, Summit Grammar
School, Summit, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1948, to June, 1949, Hazlehurst High,
Hazlehurst, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1949, to May, 1953, Summit High, Summit,
Mississippi, graduate-yes.

May, 1953, to October, 1953, Draughon's Business
College, Jackson, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1954, to January, 1955, Southern
Mississippi Junior College, Summit, Mississippi,
graduate-no.

May, 1959, to November, 1959, American Hair Syling
Academy, Jacksonville, Mississippi, graduate-yes.

July, 1965, to November, 1965, MDTA School,
Pascagoula, Mississippi, graduate-yes.

He indicated that he had the following military
service:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>	<u>Service Number</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
U.S.	Mississippi National Guard	NG 24919772	February, 1954	January, 1955
U. S.	Army	RA 24919772	January, 1955	November, 1957
U. S.	Army Reserve	AR 24919772	November, 1957	March, 1962.

JN 157-9586

LOFTON showed that he received an honorable discharge and that he was registered with Local Selective Service Board Number 62 at McComb, Mississippi, and had a 5-A classification

He showed the following residences:

Franklin County, Mississippi, from December, 1936, to February, 1941,

Pitkin, Louisiana, from February, 1941, to January, 1943,

McCall's Creek, Mississippi, from January, 1943, to March, 1944,

Summit, Mississippi, from March, 1944, to October, 1944,

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from October, 1944, to January, 1945,

Natchez, Mississippi, from January, 1945, to September, 1945,

Summit, Mississippi, from September, 1945, to July, 1948,

Hazlehurst, Mississippi, from July, 1948, to June, 1949,

Box 64, Summit, Mississippi, June, 1949, to May, 1953,

Northwest Avenue, Jackson, Mississippi, May, 1953, to October, 1953,

Box 64, Summit, Mississippi, from October, 1953, to January, 1955,

JN 157-9586

U. S. Army from January, 1955, to November, 1957,

Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, from November, 1957, to July, 1958,

Jacksonville Beach, Florida, from July, 1958, to November, 1959,

1164 Ogilvie Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, from November, 1959, to February, 1961,

343 8th Street, Atlanta, Georgia, February, 1961, to October, 1961,

1284 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia, from October, 1961, to January, 1962,

602 Ansley Forest Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, from January, 1962, to September, 1962,

8611 Truxton Avenue, Los Angeles, California, from September, 1962, to November, 1962,

103 Autumn Drive, Anaheim, California, from November, 1962, to July, 1963,

924 Hancock Avenue, from July, 1963, to October, 1964, (this address in Los Angeles, California),

1231 North Sweetzer Avenue, Los Angeles, California, from October, 1964, to February, 1965,

708 Avenue B, McComb, Mississippi, from February, 1965, to July, 1965,

Route 1, Box 8B, Gautier, Mississippi, July, 1965, to September, 1965,

1915 Perry Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi, from September, 1965, to present.

He listed the following employments:

 to May, 1953, student, high school
and grammar school,

May, 1953, to October, 1953, student, Draughon's
Business School, Jackson, Mississippi,

October, 1953, to September, 1954, accountant,
McComb Manufacturing Company, DAVE MATTHEWS,
McComb, Mississippi,

September, 1954, to January, 1955, student,
Southwest Mississippi Junior College, Summit,
Mississippi,

January, 1955, to November, 1957, U. S. Army,

November, 1957, to January, 1958, sales clerk,
Holmes Department Store, Canal Street, New Orleans,
Louisiana,

January, 1958, to July, 1958, instructor, Arthur
Murray Studios, TONY KENT, 840 Gravier, New
Orleans, Louisiana,

July, 1958, to November, 1959, instructor, Fred
Astaire Studios, ARTHUR POWELL, Jacksonville,
Florida,

December, 1959, to January, 1961, hair stylist,
Richardo's Beauty Salon, RICHARDO COTTINGHAM,
1938 Peachtree, Atlanta, Georgia,

January, 1961, to January, 1962, hair stylist,
Rich's Lenox Square, MARGARET MOSRIE, Rich's
Department Store, Lenox Square, Atlanta, Georgia,

January, 1962, to March, 1962, hair stylist,
The Chalet, SIDNEY JOHNSON, 2175 Cheshire
Building Road, Atlanta, Georgia,

March, 1962, to October, 1962, hair stylist,
Rich's Lenox Square, MARGARET MOSRIE, Rich's
Department Store, Lenox Square, Atlanta,
Georgia,

July, 1963, to August, 1963, unemployed,

January, 1963, to July, 1963, hair stylist,
J. P. Allen Company, Atlanta, Georgia,

November, 1962, to January, 1963, manager,
Curl N' Comb, Incorporated, JAMES VICTOR,
633 North Euclid Street, Anaheim, California,

July, 1963, to January, 1964, hair stylist,
James Victor Beauty Salon, Slauson Avenue,
Los Angeles, California,

January, 1964, to January, 1965, hair stylist,
May Company Wilshire, ROBERT WILLIAMS, Wilshire
Boulevard, Los Angeles, California,

November, 1965, to present, shipfitter, helper
apprentice, Ingall's Shipbuilding Corporation,

January, 1965, to February, 1965, unemployed,

July, 1965, to November, 1965, trainee M.D.T.A.
School, Pascagoula, Mississippi,

February, 1965, to June, 1965, Howell Motor Company,
McComb, Mississippi,

June, 1965, to July, 1965, unemployed.

Under relatives he listed the following:

Father, AARON LOFTON, 1915 Ferry Street,
Pascagoula, Mississippi, born Franklin
County, Mississippi, on December 24, 1910,
U. S. citizen,

Mother, AGNES NUNNERY LOFTON, same, born
Franklin County, Mississippi, on June 18,
1913, U. S. citizen,

Brother, BILLIE J. LOFTON, Star Route,
Gautier, Mississippi, born Franklin County,
Mississippi, dated September 28, 1937.

LOFTON indicated he had visited the following
foreign countries:

Niagara Falls, Canada, left U. S. July 2, 1955,
and returned July 4, 1955, on holiday,

Fort Kobbe, Panama Canal Zone, left U. S.
October, 1955, and returned October, 1957,
with U. S. Army,

Northern Mexico, left U. S. April 15, 1962,
and returned May, 1, 1962, on vacation.

He listed the following references:

N. A. COPLEN, known 20 years, P. O. Box, Summit,
Mississippi, insurance agent,

W. D. FLINN, known 5 years, 1806 Clavey Road,
designer engineer, Lockheed, Atlanta, Georgia,

Captain A. B. BAXTER, known 10 years, 904 Carriage
Hill Apartments, now working North Carolina for
drug company,

JN 157-9586

Miss SUE CANTER, known two years, 2856 Westbrook Avenue, administrative assistant to RED SKELTON, California,

MARY D. CAIN, known 20 years, Post Office Box, newspaper editor, Summit, Mississippi.

LOFTON indicated that he had never been arrested, had never acted as a representative of any foreign government, firm, or corporation, and had no relatives residing outside the United States.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. J. D. ASHLEY, Security Guard, Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, advised the Security Office files contain an Active File Card for one AARON I. LOFTON, Social Security Number 425-56-6206, who is presently assigned in Department 68. Mr. ASHLEY said the Active File Card bears LOFTON's signature and indicates the following employment history with that corporation:

First hired November 10, 1965, assigned
Department Number 6, Clock Number 32504.

Transferred January 31, 1966, Department
Number 9, Clock Number 32504.

Transferred March 15, 1968, Department
Number 68, Clock Number 12724.

Mr. ASHLEY advised that Mr. WALTER L. POL, Chief Security Officer, would have additional background information on file on LOFTON. He said the payroll records which would include the time cards for LOFTON would be on file in the Paymasters Office.

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-89
by SA LEON ROSS GRABEN
SA DAVID P. HNRLEY LRG/wgj Date dictated 4/16/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

Mr. C. R. BRELAND, Registrar, Southwest, Mississippi, Junior College, Summit, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS who also advised him of the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. BRELAND made available the record of AARON LOFTON, born October 28, 1934, who was admitted to Southwest Junior College in September of 1954, and who dropped out in January of 1955, at the end of the first term.

A review of this record indicates that a transcript thereof was sent to "Memphis Academy of Arts, 690 Adams Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, on October 14, 1957.

A transcript was sent to "Dean, Balboa Junior College, Panama Canal Zone." Mr. BRELAND advised that this transcript was sent before 1963 when he became registrar. He advised that he could fix no date for that action.

Mr. BRELAND advised that he is positive that he has sent transcripts to at least two colleges in the State of California during the past two years for AARON LOFTON. He stated there is no notation of subject in his records but he personally recalls sending the transcripts.

Mr. BRELAND further advised he is positive that at sometime in August, 1967, he sent a copy of the transcript of AARON LOFTON to Ingalls Shipyard at Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Mr. BRELAND stated there is a notation in the record of AARON LOFTON indicating that LOFTON appeared at the registrar's office on August 22, 1967, and was given a copy of his transcript.

On 4/15/68 at Summit, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-57288
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR. *CH*
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/RLT/bkh Date dictated 4/17/68

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Mr. BRELAND advised that he knows AARON ISAAC LOFTON, has seen him in the McComb - Summit areas on three or four occasions during the past two to three years.

He advised that he has heard that AARON LOFTON has been employed as a hair stylist in Southern California and in Atlanta, Georgia, sometime during the past three to five years.

He stated that he knew LOFTON was employed by Howell Motor Company near Summit, Mississippi, approximately three years ago and thereafter eventually obtained some type of employment in the vicinity of Pascagoula, Mississippi.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

Mr. VERNON SILLS, Principal, Gibson High School, McComb, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS and the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. SILLS advised that he would furnish any information available from the records of the Gibson High School regarding individuals who attended the Summit High School prior to its closing.

Mr. SILLS obtained the record of BILLY JOE LOFTON and therefrom determined that BILLY JOE LOFTON had only one brother, no sisters, and that his father's name was AARON LOFTON, no address given.

Mr. SILLS advised there was no record of a RON LOFTON having attended the Summit High School at any time.

Thereafter, Mr. SILLS located the record of AARON ISAAC LOFTON who graduated third in a class of eighteen at the Summit High School in 1953.

This record listed his date of birth as October 28, 1934; place of birth Brookhaven, Mississippi; father, AARON LOFTON, occupation mechanic. The record listed the father's former address as Natchez, Mississippi, and indicated AARON ISAAC LOFTON attended school at the "Institution" in the fourth grade.

Attached to the high school record of AARON ISAAC LOFTON is a "college entrance certificate for Mississippi" for AARON (IKE) ISAAC LOFTON born October 28, 1934, parent or guardian AARON LOFTON. This form indicated that AARON ISAAC LOFTON attended the Hazlehurst, Mississippi, High School from August, 1949, to May, 1950.

On 4/15/68 at Summit, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-87
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR. CCH
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/RLT/bkh Date dictated 4/17/68

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JN 157-9586.

This form contains notations indicating a transcript of AARON ISAAC LOFTON's high school record was sent to "S. W., August, 1954," and to "Memphis Academy of Arts, October 12, 1957."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 18, 1968

KRANDALL HOWELL, Manager, Howell Motor Company, Mc Comb, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

HOWELL stated that an individual by the name of AARON I. LOFTON, also known as RON LOFTON, had been employed as a salesman by him from February, 1965, through May, 1965. He stated that LOFTON's folks originally were from Summit, Mississippi, but all of the family had allegedly moved to the Gulf Coast sometime in 1965 or 1966. He noted that AARON LOFTON had a brother by the name of BILLY JOE LOFTON who is supposedly a mathematics teacher at a junior college on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

HOWELL stated that AARON LOFTON had graduated from the Summit High School about 1954, had been in the service, was a hair stylist in Atlanta, Georgia, then went to California, where he lived for sometime and then returned to Mc Comb in 1965. HOWELL stated that it was necessary to fire LOFTON from his position as salesman because of his appearance and odd philosophy. He had professed to be an atheist and constantly was engaging customers in conversations concerning philosophy and politics. HOWELL noted that LOFTON's appearance and actions indicated that he might have homosexual tendencies.

HOWELL furnished the following description of LOFTON:

White male, 5' 11", 160 pounds, brown hair, fair complexion, age 32, last known address 708 Avenue B,

On 4/15/68 at Mc Comb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-86
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND:mah Date dictated 4/18/68

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JN 157-9586

Mc Comb, Mississippi, Social Security #425-56-6206.

HOWELL advised that he could furnish no information concerning LOFTON's present whereabouts other than he might possibly be on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 18, 1968

HARVEY VEST, Manager of Vest's Department Store, and President of the Do-Si-Do Square Dance Club, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

Mr. VEST noted that most of the individuals who attended square dancing in Mc Comb are known to him. He recalled that approximately two years ago, there was one individual who was single and a stranger to Mc Comb who attended square dancing for about three months. He said that this individual's name was RON (LNU) and was employed at Howell Motor Company, Mc Comb, Mississippi, as a salesman. VEST noted that RON always came to the dance alone, talked about having been in Mexico and appeared to be somewhat "odd." VEST noted that RON was considered a good dancer.

He advised that he has not seen RON in or around the Mc Comb area for about two years and could furnish no information concerning his present whereabouts. He described RON as a white male, 5' 10", 150-160 pounds, approximately 33 years old, brown hair, and fair complexion.

VEST stated that there are no other dancing clubs other than in Mc Comb, Mississippi, in the Counties of Amite, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike and Walthall.

On 4/15/68 at Mc Comb, Mississippi File # 157-9586-572-85
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR. mah Date dictated 4/18/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. MARVIN WATSON, Clerk, Southern Airlines, Oxford, Mississippi, advised that after checking his records, only one passenger arrived in Oxford on Flight 781 on April 8, 1968, from Memphis, Tennessee, and stated the name is not available. He stated his records reflect this passenger listed two bags, not further identified.

Mr. WATSON advised that he does not recall seeing any particular person arriving at the Oxford Airport but stated he has since been contacted by ROBERT EARL DAVIS who questioned him concerning the identity of a passenger who arrived on the morning flight of April 8, 1968. Mr. WATSON advised that the identity of this passenger might be obtained through the Southern Airways ticket office in Memphis.

He advised that the particular flight in question, No. 781, would have departed Memphis at 10:10 a.m. and arrived in Oxford, Mississippi, at 10:33 a.m. on April 8, 1968.

Mr. WATSON also advised he had discussed this matter with other employees at the airport and none of them could recall this person mentioned by DAVIS.

On 4/14/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-84
by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN /blw Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mr. WALTER KOONCE, manager, Southern Greyhound Terminal, Clarksdale, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

He called the Downtowner Motor Inn in Clarksdale on the night of April 4, 1968, to determine if rooms were available, since buses bound for Memphis, Tennessee, were not being allowed to enter the city of Memphis due to the civil disorder there following the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that a bus from Vicksburg, Mississippi, which came through Greenville, Mississippi, arrived at Clarksdale on time - 9:41 PM. The bus did not proceed to Memphis.

One passenger, a white male, 45 to 50 years old, about six feet tall, 175 pounds, dark hair, with receding hairline, slightly protruding front teeth, attired in sports shirt and slacks, was upset, because he was supposed to meet a boat in Memphis, Tennessee. This individual, name unknown, made a remark to the effect that MARTIN LUTHER KING "got what was coming to him," a remark which Mr. KOONCE stated he recalled because it was not appropriate for the time it was made.

Mr. KOONCE stated that the driver of the bus on which the above passenger arrived was Mr. HOOKER, who lives in Memphis, Tennessee.

On 4/8/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-83
by SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mrs. FLORA HITE, Registration Clerk, Downtowner Motor Inn, 306 East Second Street, Clarksdale, Mississippi, located registration card number 8887, dated April 4, 1968, which was time-stamped 10:14 P.M. It reflected the name, BILLY RAY KING, 102 Arlington Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana. He was charged \$7.50 plus tax, total \$7.84, for one person, room 225.

A statement of charges for the above registration was stamped 10:12 P.M., April 4, 1968, indicating a prepaid registration, and did not include any charges in addition to the above amount.

The above registration was handled by Registration Clerk MYRTLE CALDWELL, as indicated by the initials "M.C." on the above card.

There was no record of check-out time.

On 4/8/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-82
by SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ:bal Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. ROY HARDY, Route 3, New Albany, Mississippi, was interviewed at his residence in the presence of Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) Investigator BURT DUNCAN.

HARDY was questioned concerning his activities on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, at which time he advised that he is employed by BILL PHILLIPS, a road contractor, doing road work near Highway 30, and stated on this date it was too wet to operate the heavy equipment, and therefore he was not working. He advised he took this occasion to take his pickup truck to Harris Body Shop in New Albany, and stated after his truck was repaired he stopped by to visit his first cousin, TOM NELSON DAVIS, who lives on South Acres Drive in New Albany. HARDY admitted that he was drinking prior to the time he decided to visit DAVIS, and stated after arriving at DAVIS' house he offered him a drink of whiskey. He recalled that TOM NELSON DAVIS suggested they drive out to the Barbecue Grill at the Beacon Hill community, located just east of New Albany, Mississippi. He recalls that DAVIS was driving his white Mustang, and stated that he followed DAVIS in his pickup truck.

He stated he could not be certain of the time, but stated it was still daylight and probably around 5:30 or 6:00 P.M. He stated that DAVIS sat in the pickup truck with him, and they both had one drink together. He stated DAVIS told him that he had an appointment to meet someone he believed to be at 7:00 P.M., and left.

He advised that DAVIS would not tell him where he planned to go, and stated but as far as he could determine this was the first drink DAVIS had taken on that

On 4/8/68 at Route 3, New Albany, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-81
by SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER and SA ROBIN O. COTTEN:ROC:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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afternoon.

He stated he returned home [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He advised he did not learn concerning the shooting of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING until the following day.

He advised that at no time during his brief conversation with TOM NELSON DAVIS, did he ever mention the name of Doctor KING.

He volunteered that he knows DAVIS has an extensive criminal record, and has served time for armed robbery, but has no reason to believe that DAVIS would be the type of person who would kill anyone without provocation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

On April 7, 1968, SA BENJAMIN O. KEUTZER of the Jackson Division, FBI, Jackson, Mississippi, received an anonymous telephone call by a person assumed by his speech to be a Negro male who stated he was calling for a friend who had overheard a telephone conversation on a party-line.

The telephone call was allegedly made from Jackson, Mississippi, to the State of Indiana, area code 317, number 282-3901.

The alleged telephone call was to the effect that the caller had left Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, 1968, and had traveled to Gulfport, Mississippi, where the caller had gotten rid of the vehicle he was traveling in and had rented lodging.

The word "KING" was mentioned several times during the conversation.

The anonymous caller said his friend would not identify herself to the FBI as she feared for her safety.

The telephone conversation was terminated by the anonymous caller at that time.

On 4/7/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 - 572-80
by SA BENJAMIN O. KEUTZER:ccs ^{BJK} Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

ALBERT C. LOGAN, Constable, Houlka (Chickasaw County), Mississippi, advised that ROY RAY LOGAN is his brother who resides on Madison Avenue in Memphis, Tennessee. He stated that if there was information contained in the records of the Holiday Inn, Memphis, Tennessee, that ROY R. LOGAN was registered from April 5-6, 1968, whose employment was shown as Chickasaw County Sheriff's Office, this information had to be erroneous. He explained that his brother, ROY RAY LOGAN, is employed on either a full-time or a part-time basis with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in Memphis, Tennessee, and he thought perhaps that the records of the Holiday Inn were misinterpreted.

LOGAN further advised that he had not been in Memphis, Tennessee, during the past month and he could not account for the activities of his brother, ROY RAY LOGAN, on April 5 or 6, 1968. He stated that his brother is a friend of another Mississippi resident, FRED BALLARD, from Tupelo, Mississippi, who is also employed by the Shelby County Sheriff's Office.

LOGAN described his brother as being approximately 30 years of age and weighing over 300 pounds. He characterized him as being a person who just "naturally hated Niggers", and it would not surprise him if his brother was involved in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On 4/10/68 at Houston, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-79
by SA LAWRENCE W. GORMAN:pdb Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mrs. JUDY DIAL, 501 Birkshire Circle, Clinton, Mississippi, advised her husband is JOHN D. DIAL. Mrs. DIAL stated that her husband formerly had a light blue Ford with an Alabama license on it.

Mrs. DIAL stated her husband is a drug salesman for the Lam-Par Company, 277 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas.

Mrs. DIAL stated that on April 4, 1968, her husband checked out of a motel at Memphis, Tennessee, and came back to their home at Clinton, Mississippi. She stated she believed he stayed in the Holiday Inn on Third Street at Memphis while he was there. Mrs. DIAL stated that on the night of April 4, 1968 she and her husband were listening to their television at their home in Clinton when they heard about the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., at Memphis.

Mrs. DIAL then stated that her husband had recently turned this light blue Ford into the company at Dallas, and that he was at this time driving a Chrysler vehicle and that he was out of the state and would return either on April 11, 1968, or April 12, 1968.

Mrs. DIAL could furnish no further information concerning the light blue Ford her husband formerly drove, nor could she furnish any other information concerning the license plate other than the Ford had been originally purchased in Alabama.

On 4/9/68 at Clinton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-78
by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN: pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

On April 22, 1968, EVERETT GAULT, Route 1, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. GAULT advised that he and his wife are presently separated, and that he has a family consisting of eleven children. He stated none of these children have the name ERIC STARVO GALT, and pointed out that his last name is spelled GAULT and not GALT. EVERETT GAULT observed photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT and advised that he had never seen this individual and that this person is definitely not a member of his family, or a relation thereof. He stated that he has a brother by the name of CURTIS HOPE GAULT, and his last known address was Pioneer, Louisiana. EVERETT GAULT stated that his brother, CURTIS GAULT, was employed by the Ford Bacon and Davis Construction Company, Monroe, Louisiana. He stated he has not been in contact with his brother for some period of time, and is not sure of his present whereabouts.

He also commented that MALCOLM A. GAULT and EZRA GAULT are both brothers of his. EVERETT GAULT stated he could furnish no information concerning any one who resembles the person in the photograph identified as ERIC STARVO GALT. EVERETT GAULT advised his brother, CURTIS HOPE GAULT, is not identical with ERIC STARVO GALT.

The following physical description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name: EVERETT GAULT

On 4/22/68 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-77
by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR. bjg Date dictated 4/23/68

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JN 157-9586

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Height:	5' 7"
Weight:	175 pounds
Eyes:	Dark (wears glasses)
Age:	58
Hair:	Brown, greying
Build:	Medium
Occupation:	Engineer, GM&O Railroad
Residence:	Route 1, Meridian, Mississippi
Marital status:	Married (wife and 11 children)
Brothers:	CURTIS HOPE GAULT, residence unknown; MALCOLM A. GAULT, residence unknown; EZRA GAULT, residence unknown

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

DEE ARANIAS telephonically contacted the Oxford Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from Gulfport, Mississippi, at which time ARANIAS provided the following information:

ARANIAS stated that she and DELMA PIERCE were presently in Gulfport, Mississippi. ARANIAS stated that on Thursday night, April 4, 1968, she and PIERCE were at the Holiday Inn in Biloxi, Mississippi.

ARANIAS stated that prior to arriving in Biloxi on April 4, 1968, they had been at the Standard Walgreen Agency, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, at about 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968.

ARANIAS further stated that DELMA was not with her, at the moment, but that DELMA had called her sister in Indiana twice on Friday, April 5, 1968. One call was made from Jackson and one from Memphis on Friday night. ARANIAS stated that DELMA had used the name LA BELLA when calling her sister, in order to avoid a family conflict due to a prior marriage.

ARANIAS stated that although she and PIERCE traveled a lot, they could always be contacted through the photo shop.

On 4/8/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S 72-76
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER:mah ^{cdp} Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

FRED PHILLIP THORNE was contacted at the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi, at which time he stated that he is presently employed by the Underwriters Salvage Company, an insurance company at Memphis, Tennessee. He stated the home address of this insurance company was 1580 Channel Street and that he resided at 514 Ross Street, West Memphis, Arkansas.

Mr. THORNE made available an Arkansas driver's license Number 288958 giving his name as FRED PHILLIP THORNE and resides at 514 Ross Street, West Memphis, Arkansas.

Mr. THORNE stated that he was at his home in West Memphis, Arkansas on the night that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was shot and that he heard the news over his radio in his car as he was going to a restaurant nearby.

Mr. THORNE stated that when he left Memphis on April 7, 1968 his wife jokingly stated that he should not take the company car as the officials of the law enforcement (in) Tennessee and Mississippi would be looking for a small white car and he would have to be stopped to be checked out.

Mr. THORNE stated he was leaving Jackson on early morning of April 9, 1968 to return to his company in Memphis, but that if he was not located at Memphis they would know his whereabouts at all times.


Mr. THORNE furnished the following description of himself:

Name	FRED PHILLIP THORNE
Date of Birth	2/2/23
Place of Birth	New York City, New York

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-572-75
by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

Age	45
Height	6'
Weight	135
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Dark brown with some greying (small bald spot in top of head with high protruding hair line)
Wife	MURIEL THORNE
Children	NANCY, Age 20 FRED, JR., age 18
	
Employment	Representative, Underwriters Salvage Company

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

CARSIE HALL, President, Jackson Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), 121 North Farish Street, telephonically contacted the Jackson Office on April 7, 1968 and stated that on EVELYN ROBINS had informed him that she had seen a white male get out of a small white car bearing Shelby County, Tennessee license KN 4264 and go into the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi.

According to Mr. HALL Miss ROBINS stated that individual driving this small car resembled the sketch of individual appearing in the newspaper as person who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-872-74
by SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

MAXINE DELBUOUNO advised she was the night desk clerk for the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi. She stated that at about 6:50 PM she registered a man by the name of FRED P. THORNE who was driving a 1968 white Tempest Pontiac with Tennessee license KN 4264.

Mrs. DELBUOUNO stated that her files show that FRED P. THORNE furnished an address of 1580 Channel Street, Memphis, Tennessee and that he was employed by the Underwriters Salvage Company of Memphis, Tennessee. THORNE registered for two nights on April 7 and 8, 1968.

Mrs. DELBUOUNO furnished the following description of FRED P. THORNE:

Name	FRED P. THORNE
Residence	1580 Channel Street Memphis, Tennessee
Height	About 5'10"
Weight	140
Hair	Dark with a bald spot in back of head
Build	Slender
Age	48
Employment	Underwriters Salvage, Memphis, Tennessee

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-572-73
by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN *gh* /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

ARTIS GEESTON advised he was the night bellhop at the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi.

He stated that he recalled a man presently registered in Room 719 of the Downtowner coming to the motel in a white Tempest Pontiac with Tennessee license. GEESTON stated that he did not check this individual in, but from his observations believed him to be about 50 years of age, 5'9" tall, 140 pounds and had dark hair which was thin on top of the head.

GEESTON then stated that he could furnish no furnished information concerning this individual.

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-572-72
by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN *gh* /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

JOHN HUBEART WILLARD was interviewed at his place of employment, Day-Brite Lighting Company, Tupelo, Mississippi, and after being advised of the nature of the inquiry and the identity of the interviewing Agents was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Number 306 443 A, and photographs of RAY taken while using the name ERIC STARVO GALT. WILLARD stated that the photographs were unfamiliar to him.

WILLARD also stated the following names were unknown to him:

W. C. HERRON
JAMES MC BRIDE
JAMES O'CONNOR
JAMES WALTON
JAMES WALYON
EARL JALES

WILLARD further stated that he is a married man with a family and does not hang around bars.

WILLARD commented that the only traveling he does is to visit relatives in Southaven, Mississippi, a suburb of Memphis, Tennessee, and further commented that he does not visit any bars in Memphis on these occasions, and does not hang around the City of Memphis on these visits.

On 4/22/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S-72-71
by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN and
SA JOHN S. CASTLES:FGH:ba1 Date dictated 4/22/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

HENRY BOYETTE, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the purpose of the interview, was interrogated at 819 Harrison Street, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mr. BOYETTE advised that he normally just uses the name HENRY BOYETTE but his full name is HENRY JUNIOR BOYETTE and he currently resides at 1003 Van Buren Street, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mr. BOYETTE advised that he is District Sales Manager in Tupelo, Mississippi, for the American and Efird Thread Mills, Incorporated, 819 Harrison Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, with their home office in Mount Holly, North Carolina. He stated that on April 3, 1968, he left his home with his wife and drove to Memphis, Tennessee, where he registered at the Holiday Inn on Lamar Avenue, since he had business with the Inn Keeper Supply Company, 3762 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

On this particular date, he also had a meeting with the Vice-President of the company from Mount Holly, North Carolina, EDWARD WOWELL. He said this meeting took place at the airport in Memphis, Tennessee, during the early evening hours.

BOYETTE advised that on April 4, 1968, he had business with ROY GILLIA, of Inn Keeper Supply and also with a representative of the Operman Manufacturing Company, 706 Royal Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. He related that he believes it was somewhere between 9:00 and 9:30 P.M. when he and his wife checked out of the Holiday Inn and his wife traveled with him in the automobile around Memphis and he believed he made his last contact sometime prior to 3:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, after which time he and his wife

On 4/10/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-70
by SA DONALD H. GREENE
SA JOHN S. CASTLES JSC/wgj Date dictated 4/11/68

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JN 157-9586

departed Tupelo, Mississippi, in his 1967 Ford Galaxie 500, chartreuse in color, bearing 1968 Mississippi License M5297.

En route to Tupelo, he and his wife stopped at his mother-in-law's home, Mrs. VIRLIE TUNES, at Wallerville, Mississippi, near New Albany, to pick up their two year old child who was being kept by Mrs. TUNES while he and his wife were in Memphis. He said when they left Mrs. TUNES' house they drove directly to Tupelo, Mississippi, and went to their residence where they had sandwiches for the evening meal and then went to a gospel singing at the Community Center in Tupelo.

Mr. BOYETTE related that neither he nor his wife were aware of the murder of Doctor KING until after they returned home in Tupelo from the gospel singing sometimes after 9:00 P.M. in the evening.

The following description of BOYETTE was obtained through interview and observation:

Name	HENRY BOYETTE
Also Known As	HENRY JUNIOR BOYETTE
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	June 11, 1934
Place of birth	Meridian, Mississippi
Height	Six feet three inches
Weight	Two hundred fifteen pounds
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Brown-mostly bald
Education	High school
Marital status	Married
Wife	FAYE
Wife's occupation	Telephone operator Tupelo, Mississippi

JN 157-9586

Employment

(Currently on maternity
leave)

American and Efird Thread
Mills, Incorporated, ten
years.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 19, 1968

WILLIAM E. REYNOLDS, Route One, Burnsville, Mississippi, after being advised of the nature of the inquiry and the identity of the interviewing Agent, advised that on April 4, 1968, he visited Memphis, Tennessee, and stayed at the Linden Lodge Motel in Room 206 and checked out of the motel on April 5, 1968. Mr. REYNOLDS recalled that when he checked into the motel, he listed his license number as Mississippi N1126 inadvertently and stated that his correct license number is F/6 N1128. He described his vehicle as a 1965 black Ford pickup.

Mr. REYNOLDS stated that his reason for being in Memphis, Tennessee, was for an appointment he had at the Kennedy Veterans Administration Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee. He stated he is drawing 100 percent disability social security benefits plus 40 percent Veterans Administration benefits.

Concerning his whereabouts on April 4, 1968, he stated that at approximately 6:00 p.m., he was in his room watching television. Mr. REYNOLDS denied any knowledge of the individual(s) responsible for the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and stated that he did not know anything about the shooting until he saw it on television at approximately 6:00 p.m.

The following description of REYNOLDS was obtained through interview and observation:

Name	WILLIAM E. REYNOLDS
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5 feet 11½ inches
Weight	185 pounds

On 4/12/68 at Burnsville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-69
by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN /blw Date dictated 4/16/68

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JN 157-9586

Hair	Brown (brush cut)
Eyes	Blue
Date of Birth	November 8, 1923
Place of Birth	Springfield, Missouri
Residence	Route One Burnsville, Mississippi
Military Service	U. S. Marine Corps, Serial No. 326577 ERNEST F. SMITH
Father-in-law	Route One Burnsville, Mississippi
Automobiles	1965 black Ford pickup truck; 1968 Mississippi License F/6 N1128.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

DONALD DICKSON was located in Stray Horn, Mississippi, at the sight of the construction of a water tower. DICKSON said that he has been in the Senatobia, Mississippi, area for the past three weeks and that he is employed for R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company of Newnan, Georgia, which company constructs water towers. DICKSON said he has been so employed for the past nine years and is a foreman of that company.

DICKSON said that on April 4, 1968, he was in bed asleep at the Thrift Courts Motel in Senatobia, Mississippi, when one of his employees came into the room advising him that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee. DICKSON said that an employee, TOM CANNON, and DOUG IVEY can vouch for his presence at the motel when KING was assassinated. DICKSON said that his 1967 white Mustang automobile was parked at the motel at that time.

DICKSON said that he is not responsible for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, nor can he furnish any information in that regard.

The following is a description of DICKSON obtained through observation and interview:

Sex:	Male	FOIA(b)(6)
Race:	White	FOIA(b)(7) - (C)
Age:	29	
Date of Birth:		
Place of Birth:	Fayetteville, Georgia	
Residence:	Route 1, Fayetteville, Georgia	
Height:	6 feet	
Weight:	160	
Eyes:	Brown	

On 4/10/68 at Stray Horn, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-68
 by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

Hair:	Light brown, short, curly, and parted
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Slender
Education:	10th grade
Marital Status:	Single
Military Service:	U.S. Army, 53348507 from 1961 to 1963 - honorable
Employment:	Foreman for R.D. Cole Manufacturing Company, Newnan, Georgia, for past nine years
Automobile:	1967 white Mustang, 1968 Georgia license 112-D-484
Previous Arrests:	No admits

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

GROVER KINNY, Stock Manager, Pettis Company, Oxford, Mississippi, was contacted concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time KINNY furnished the following information:

KINNY advised that Pettis Cigar Company buys a Number 20 brown paper bag bearing the name "Homestead Stubby" from the Graham Paper Company in Memphis.

KINNY advised that distribution to stores in the extreme northern part of Mississippi is handled by Senatobia Tobacco Company, in Senatobia, Mississippi, which is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company, and that specific information concerning the sale of this bag would have to be obtained from Senatobia Tobacco.

On 4/18/68 at OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-67
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

Mr. V. P. WAIT, Manager, Senatobia Tobacco Company, was interviewed concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time WAIT furnished the following information:

WAIT advised that Senatobia Tobacco Company is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company and that they (Senatobia Tobacco) do handle a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" on it.

WAIT advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop, located on Route 51, adjacent to the Mississippi - Tennessee State Line, is the only store that is presently purchasing this bag. WAIT stated that the Southaven Minnow Shop has presently been purchasing about 250 of these bags every two weeks.

WAIT further advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop is the only store that is presently buying that particular bag in that area. WAIT stated that the "Market Place", located on Route 51, across from the Southaven Minnow Shop, had purchased this particular bag around Christmas of 1967, but this had only been a one time order.

WAIT advised that the closest store to the Southaven Minnow Shop that is presently using this particular bag is Treadways Grocery, which is in Cockrum, Mississippi, in the southern part of DeSoto County.

On 4/18/68 at SENATOBIA, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-572-66
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. ^{WPL} /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

LEW HOUSTON, Manager of Service Beverage, a Schlitz Beer Distributor, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that all their beer is brewed and sent to them from their Schlitz Brewery in Longview, Texas.

HOUSTON said that GUS THOMPSON is their truck salesman to the Southaven, Mississippi, area and does deliver Schlitz beer to the Southaven Minnow Shop in Southaven, Mississippi.

HOUSTON said on March 15, 1968, his company received 2100 cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz Beer from their Longview, Texas, brewery and all of that beer has been distributed.

HOUSTON said that on March 20, 1968, his company was shipped 924 cases of that beer from Longview, Texas, and that he has 35 cases of that particular beer left, which was brewed at Longview on March 15, 1968, which date is recorded on the cans. HOUSTON said that this particular shipment was sent on March 15, 1968, from Longview to him.

HOUSTON said that therefore all Schlitz beer brewed at Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, was received by him on March 20, 1968, and that of the 924 cases received, he has 35 cases remaining. HOUSTON said that from his records, the Southaven Minnow Shop on March 21, 1968, received four cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz Beer; on March 28, 1968, five cases; and on March 30, 1968, twelve cases. HOUSTON said that that beer received at the Southaven Minnow Shop would have been a portion of the beer brewed in Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, and received by him in Clarksdale on March 20, 1968.

On 4/17/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-272-65
by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

Located at the Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, just south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi, were numerous six packs of Schlitz twelve-ounce beer in the pop-top can, held together in the six pack with a plastic ring, which beer was brewed by the date March 15, 1968. A can of this beer was obtained.

Also located in that minnow shop was a brown paper bag stamped "Homestead. Stubby. 20". One of the brown paper bags was obtained.

BILL and JANE MC LAUGHLIN and their son WILLIE MC LAUGHLIN, the proprietors of that minnow shop, were all interviewed in this matter, and composite photographs of GALT exhibited to them with negative results. Neither they nor LAWRENCE PARKER, a frequent customer to the minnow shop, could identify GALT by photograph, nor did they recall an individual driving a white Mustang with an Alabama license purchasing a six pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their minnow shop.

Mr. MC LAUGHLIN advised that GUS (last name unknown), a salesman for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, delivers their beer to them, and that from his records, on April 1, 1968, he purchased 17 cases of twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer; on April 10, eight cases; on April 11, six cases; and on April 15, 1968, two cases.

It was noted that the Southaven Minnow Shop is one-half mile south on Highway 51 from the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi and exactly three miles south of the Oliver Rexall Drug Store on Highway 51, Whitehaven, Memphis, Tennessee.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-64
by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/19/68

Mr. JOHN RAY WILLARD, Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the inquiry at the outset of the interview.

He was shown a Waiver of Rights form by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN which he read, stated he understood and executed prior to conducting the interview.

Mr. WILLARD advised that he is the Field Superintendent and a Co-owner of the Natchez Gravel Company, Liberty Road, Natchez, Mississippi, and works at the gravel pit for the company near his home.

He stated he worked Thursday, March 28, 1968, and from March 29 through April 8, 1968, he was on vacation. WILLARD said on March 29 and 30, 1968, he hunted turkeys alone in the Homochitta National Forest which is directly behind his home.

On Sunday morning, March 31, 1968, he hunted turkeys in the forest with his son, KENNETH WILLARD, age 17. At noon he returned to his home and flew his Piper J-3 plane from the strip in front of his home to the Natchez Adams Airport. There he rented a Cessna 150 and flew solo for about an hour and twenty-four minutes, traveling from Natchez and Vicksburg, Mississippi, and returning. He stated after the flight he returned from the Natchez-Adams Airport to his home on Route 1, Roxie, in his Piper J-3 airplane.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he is taking flying lessons and pilot CHRIS CUMBAS of Natchez Flying Service, Inc., signed WILLARD out on his logbook.

On 4/15/68 at Roxie, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-63
by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN:pdb Date dictated 4/16/68

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JN 157-9586

On April 1, 1968, Mr. WILLARD stated he was at his home resting due to inclement weather, but when the weather permitted around 10:00 a.m. he flew back to the Natchez-Adams Airport for the purpose of taking another flying lesson. He was at the airport for several hours, but due to inclement weather he did not rent the Cessna 150 plane and returned home by his Piper J-3 plane.

Mr. WILLARD stated that on April 2 and 3, 1968, he was at his home assisting his wife in the preparation of flower beds and sodding the lawn with St. Augustine grass. In addition he had some work painting his home and remained at home during the entire period of April 2 and 3, 1968.

WILLARD continued that on the morning of April 4, 1968, he again went turkey hunting in the Homochitta National Forest, but was very tired and came home around noontime. He ate, rested and he and his wife, EVA, sometime during the mid-afternoon fished in their pond on the farm. He stated that Mr. CLETUS SEALS, a neighbor, came by the farm pond and noted he and his wife fishing on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, and further that Mr. SEALS could verify that he was home most of the time between the period, March 29 through April 4, 1968.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he and his wife returned to their home between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and he cleaned the fish while his wife cooked supper. He pointed out during the evening meal a special announcement came over his television stating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had been shot in Memphis and a later announcement stated that KING was dead.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he has never been affiliated with any Klan or hate-type organization and in fact has a number of Negroes working under his supervision at the gravel pit.

JN 157-9586

He stated he is opposed to violence in any form and this is the first vacation he has had in several years working 12 to 14 hours per day.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he has not been in Memphis in ten or more years, does not own a white Mustang and is not aware of who assassinated MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. WILLARD was shown the artist's conceptions of the unknown individuals in this matter and he stated he was not aware of this individual's identity.

The following is a description of WILLARD as obtained from interview and observation:

Name	JOHN RAY WILLARD
Race	Caucasian
Sex	Male
Age	42
Date of birth	October 24, 1925
Place of birth	Natchez, Mississippi
Height	66"
Weight	174
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Marital status	Married; wife, EVA WILLARD
Son	KENNETH WILLARD, at home, age 17
Daughter	DIANNE HAVARD, age 23, married and lives in England
Facial features	Round face with small forehead

From observation and his facial features, WILLARD does not appear to be identical with the artist's conceptions of the unknown subject in this case.

JN 157-9586

-

WILLARD added that he is not aware of the identity of any other JOHN WILLARD or anyone who might have used his name as JOHN WILLARD. He is not acquainted with ERIC STARVO GALT and knows no one by the name of HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

Mr. WILLARD stated he served in the U. S. Navy as a Ships Cook, Second Class, from September 30, 1942, to January 20, 1946, and was honorably discharged under Navy Serial Number 7217671.

Mr. WILLARD showed the interviewing agent his gun collection which is as follows:

- 1) .35 caliber Marlin Carbine
- 2) 410 pump shotgun
- 3) 12 guage Remington automatic shotgun
- 4) .22 caliber pistol revolver

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mrs. JOHN RAY (EVA) WILLARD, Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry at the outset of the interview:

Mrs. WILLARD advised that her husband was on vacation from March 29 through April 8, 1968. She stated on March 29 and 30, 1968, her husband hunted turkey alone in the Homochitta National Forest which is located directly behind their home.

She continued that on Sunday morning, March 31, 1968, he hunted turkey in the forest with their son, KENNETH WILLARD, age 17. They returned home at noon and her husband flew his Piper J-3 airplane from the strip in front of his home to the Natchez-Adams Airport. She said that her husband rented a Cessna 150 and flew solo for about an hour and twenty-four minutes, traveling to Vicksburg, Mississippi and returning. She pointed out her husband is taking flying lessons and the log should reflect the time that he flew. She added her husband returned home from the airport during the afternoon of March 31, 1968.

She said on April 1, 1968, he went to the airport to fly, but due to inclement weather, he returned to his home in the Piper J-3 airplane.

She said on April 2 and 3, 1968, Mr. WILLARD assisted her in the preparation of flower beds, sodding her lawn with St. Augustine grass and did some painting in the home. She recalled that he remained at home during the entire period of April 2 and 3, 1968.

On 4/15/68 at Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-62
by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN/bth Date dictated 4/15/68

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Mrs. WILLARD stated on April 4, 1968, her husband again went turkey hunting in the Homochitta National Forest and returned home at noon. They ate, rested and she and her husband fished in their pond on the farm. She said Mr. CLETUS SEALE, a neighbor, came by the farm pond and saw she and her husband fishing. She added that Mr. SEALE also saw her husband on several occasions between the period March 29, through April 4, 1968.

The WILLARDS, according to Mrs. WILLARD, returned to their home some time between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and Mr. WILLARD cleaned fish. She cooked steak for herself and her son and fried the fish for her husband. During the evening meal, they heard a special announcement over the television stating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, had been shot and later the announcement came over the television indicating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, was dead.

She pointed out that neither she nor her husband have been in Memphis in over ten years and was not aware of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. The artist's conception of the unknown subject in this case was shown to Mrs. WILLARD and she stated she did not know this individual. She pointed out that her husband for the past several years has been too busy working as Superintendent of the Natchez Gravel Company supervising Negroes at the gravel pit that he has little or no time to plan anything. She pointed out her husband is not that type of individual and is a very tolerant, easy-going individual. She was not aware of anyone who might have used her husband's name in connection with the slaying.

She stated that to her knowledge, her husband had never been arrested in his entire life.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

DONALD SEWELL, employee, 7-11 Store, Number 34, 6099 Millbranch, Southaven, Mississippi, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the investigation, furnished the following information:

He stated that the 7-11 Store purchases its beer from the Service Beverage Company at Clarksdale, Mississippi.

He stated that the Schlitz delivery man appears at that store every Wednesday.

He advised after examining his stock of Schlitz 12 ounce pop top cans that he had two six packs in his refrigerator with the date March 15, 1968. He stated that this 7-11 Store uses Toreador paper sacks. He advised they do not utilize a number or size 20 paper sack.

He was displayed artist's conception drawings from Birmingham and Memphis, Tennessee.

SEWELL recalled that in the latter part of March, 1968, a white male approximately 5'9" to 5'10" in height, age 27 to 28 years of age, small frame, with a dark crew hair cut, wearing a gray suit with black pin stripes, glasses with black rims, purchased beer at that store.

SEWELL stated that he could not recall what brand of beer this individual bought or how he paid for it.

SEWELL stated that he recalled this incident as the authorities in Memphis, Tennessee, had put a curfew on beer and liquor sales and that at the same time this individual was in the checkout line, a highway patrolman came to the store and told him to cut off beer sales.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-61
by SA KENNETH P. HUGHES/pac Date dictated 4/19/68

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JN 157-9586

According to SEWELL, the patrolman advised him that the individuals in line could make their purchases but no other individuals would be allowed to purchase beer. SEWELL estimated the time at 3:30 p.m.

He stated that he recalled this incident as after this white male purchased the beer, he, SEWELL, had to request him to leave the store as he was "cursing" due to the fact that the beer sales had been cut off.

SEWELL stated that he had to tell this individual to leave the store.

SEWELL again stated that he believes this incident took place during the latter part of March, 1968, when the City of Memphis first experienced racial problems.

SEWELL stated that he had never seen this individual before and has not seen him since. He stated he did not see which way he turned when he left the store nor did he observe an automobile.

He stated that this individual vaguely resembled the artist's conception drawing from Birmingham.

SEWELL stated that he doubted he could recognize this individual if he saw him again.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

TOM MELSON DAVIS, South Acres Drive, New Albany, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) Substation, at New Albany, Mississippi. He voluntarily appeared for interview.

TOM MELSON DAVIS was warned of his rights by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN and waived them, but refused to sign the Warning and Waiver form. He advised that he fully understood his rights and did not desire to execute any waiver until he learned the nature of the purposed interview.

When questioned concerning his activities on April 4, 1968, TOM MELSON DAVIS advised that he was at his home on South Acres Drive, in New Albany, Mississippi, at approximately 4:00 P.M., when his cousin ROY HARDY, who resides on Highway 30 East, stopped by his house and offered him a drink of whiskey. DAVIS pointed out that he lived at this residence with his mother, and suggested that they drive to the Beacon Hill Drive-In, located west of New Albany. He stated that he drove his 1967 white Mustang, and was followed by his cousin, ROY HARDY, in HARDY's pickup truck. He stated they sat in the truck for a few minutes in front of a small cafe, and each had a drink of whiskey.

He estimated that he left the area of the Beacon Hill area between 4:30 and 5:00 P.M., alone, driving his white Mustang, and stated he was en route to Memphis. He explained that he had planned to meet friends, BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD, at the Manhattan Club, Highway 51 South, located just north of Lil Abners Tavern in South Memphis.

On 4/8/68 at New Albany, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-60
by SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER^{for} and
SA ROBIN O. COTTEN:ROC:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

He recalled that he drove to Holly Springs, Mississippi, and stopped at a whiskey store, located on the north side of the square, where he purchased a pint of Old Charter whiskey. Thereafter, he stated that he drove on United States Highway 78 to a Savings Gas Station, located just north of Holly Springs, Mississippi, on the east side of the road, and stated he asked to see a friend, JUNIOR KIRKINDAL, who previously had allowed him to purchase gasoline on credit in the amount of \$3.00. He stated that he inquired concerning KIRKINDAL, and learned from a "redheaded boy" who was employed there, that KIRKINDAL was not working at that time. He advised that he paid this "redheaded boy" \$3.00, and in return was given his gasoline charge ticket.

He recalled that almost immediately, after he got back into his Mustang and turned on the radio, he heard a newscast concerning the shooting of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis. He stated that he continued listening to the newscast until he arrived at the Tennessee-Mississippi state line on United States Highway 78, where he stopped at a beer joint located on the east side of the highway, just a few feet south of the Tennessee state line, located in Mississippi. He advised he had been there on previous occasions and knows the owner only by sight, and stated he is certain the owner knows him as a customer, but not by name. He stated he talked with the owner, described only as a white male in his fifties, and stated they discussed the KING shooting. He advised he drank one beer and ate a hamburger. He estimated he stayed at this beer joint approximately 30 or 40 minutes and while having a hamburger, he stated he heard over the newscast at the beer joint that KING had died.

JN 157-9586

He stated he could not recall the exact time, but stated it was after dark when he heard concerning KING's death.

Thereafter, he advised he drove to the Manhattan Club, located on Highway 51 South, for the purpose of meeting BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD, and upon arriving at the Manhattan Club, stated he observed several police officers armed with shotguns guarding the area. He advised that at this time, the Manhattan Club was closed, and he then drove to "Lil Abners" Club nearby, where he met BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD. He pointed out that EARWOOD, a white male, approximately 32, is employed at the "Lil Abners" club. He recalled they were closing the club on orders of the police at the time he arrived there, and estimated it was approximately 8:00 P.M., when he met his two friends.

He recalled that BOBBY EARWOOD owned and operated a red Chevrolet pickup truck, and was invited by EARWOOD to visit his apartment for a drink, since the club was closed. He stated he followed EARWOOD in his white Mustang to EARWOOD's apartment, located approximately two miles away. He stated he was not familiar with the address, and could not state the exact whereabouts of the location of the apartment.

He estimated that he stayed at this apartment with BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD until at least 2:00 A.M., the following morning, after drinking a considerable amount, and drove back to New Albany, Mississippi, arriving there shortly after daylight on April 5, 1968.

JN 157-9586

He advised that on this occasion he was wearing a dark business suit, dark tie, and white shirt.

He volunteered to accompany Agents along the same route, if necessary, in an effort to establish his whereabouts on this date as he claimed.

With reference to his whereabouts, during the latter part of march and the first day of April, 1968, he advised he could not specifically give the names of any persons who could account for his whereabouts other than his mother, since he advised he was in New Albany at this time, and definitely had not gone to the State of Alabama. He advised that perhaps neighbors could vouch for the fact that he was in New Albany. He stated he did not recall going to Memphis on this weekend.

He advised that he does not know a JOHN WILLIARD or a HARVEY LOWLEYER, and advised he has never used either of these names as an alias.

He advised that on the night of April 4, 1968, he did not at anytime go into the city area of Memphis, where the shooting took place.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	TOM MELSON DAVIS
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	41
Date of Birth	November 6, 1926
Place of Birth	Union County, Mississippi

JN 157-9586

Height	6 feet, 1 inch
Weight	194 pounds
Hair	Brown - crewcut (was not recent crewcut)
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Address	South Acres Drive New Albany, Mississippi
Military Service	Claims service with United States Navy, 1944-1945, Honorable Discharge
Navy Serial Number	7223812
Social Security Number	425-40-5875
Mississippi Driver's License Number	000603302
Education	High School
Characteristics	Droop of left eye (artificial eye)
Mother	LOLA MAE DAVIS South Acres Drive New Albany, Mississippi
Father	A. M. DAVIS (deceased)
Brother	WALTER DAVIS New Albany, Mississippi
Brother	RAY DAVIS New Albany, Mississippi
Sister	Mrs. J. P. LOMNICK Highway 30 East New Albany, Mississippi

JN 157-9586

Sister

Mrs. ORLIS FARRIS
Old Highway 15 South
New Albany, Mississippi

Sister

Mrs. BILL ELLIOTT
Alameda, California
(address unknown)

Sister

Mrs. CHARLES MORRIS
Frankfurt, Germany
(in Military Service)

Occupation

Unemployed

Marital Status

Single

Arrests

Admits arrest Memphis,
Tennessee, 1946, armed
robbery and kidnaping -
received 3 years.

1957, Caine County, Illinois,
forgery and con game -
received 1 to 3 years.

1965, Oxford, Mississippi,
possession of non-tax paid
whiskey - received 2 years

Description of
vehicle

White Mustang, 1967 model
189, two-door, 8 cylinder,
Vehicle Identification
Number 7F01C162781; 1968
Mississippi License 73B-708;
Car has blue interior;
Purchased August, 1967,
Tutor Ford Company,
New Albany, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. ROBERT EARL DAVIS, 101 McLaurin Drive, advised he is employed by the Mid-Valley Pipeline in Oxford, Mississippi, and in connection with his duties, holds a private pilot's license to fly company planes. He explained that he spends a lot of his time around the University - Oxford Airport and stated that on the morning of April 8, 1968, he was at the lobby in the airport where he observed an unknown white male in the lobby and stated he believes this person had just arrived on a Southern Airlines flight from Memphis, Tennessee. He advised he struck up a conversation with this person and recalls this individual claimed he was an Eastern Airlines pilot who flies DC-8 aircraft. He stated that during his conversation with this person, he was of the opinion that he was not an airline pilot since he apparently did not know much about flying. He also recalls this individual questioned him concerning the cost of a small plane.

DAVIS stated that this person used the Hertz Rent-A-Car telephone located at the lobby of the airport and talked with someone in Tupelo, Mississippi. DAVIS advised he was somewhat suspicious of this person at this time and stated he picked up an extension phone and heard only a brief portion of their conversation. He recalls the person remarked over the telephone, "I'm here; I'm not in Tupelo." He stated that sometime thereafter, someone driving a white Buick picked this person up at the airport and DAVIS assumed this was the person he contacted in Tupelo, Mississippi.

DAVIS stated that during the period of time this person was waiting around the airport, he observed him carrying a blue flight bag with a name stenciled on the side which he believes was either GAULT or GOLT.

On 4/13/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-59
by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN /blw Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

He advised that earlier on April 13, 1968, he had observed a composit drawing of the person responsible for the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, Tennessee, and stated this was apparently some artist's conception drawn by a newspaper in Memphis. He stated that as he recalled this person, the composit drawing compares favorably with this individual. He described this individual as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	Approximately 32
Height	Six feet
Weight	180
Hair	Brown, short and wavey with receding hairline.

DAVIS stated this person was well dressed and wearing a brown suit.

DAVIS advised he had not seen this individual prior to this occasion in the University - Oxford Airport.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

DELMA PIERCE was telephonically contacted from Dee Dell's Photo Studio in Walls, Mississippi, at which time PIERCE voluntarily advised the following information:

PIERCE advised that due to her employment at Dee Dell's Studio, she travels quite extensively and therefore does not have a permanent address in Walls, Mississippi but can always be contacted through the photo studio. She advised that when she is in Walls she will often stay at a motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

PIERCE advised that to the best of her knowledge, she remembers calling her sister in Muncie, Indiana, on either April 5 or 6, 1968. PIERCE stated that the first time she had called had been from Jackson, Mississippi, and that the second time she called from Memphis, Tennessee, on either the same day or the ~~day~~ after. PIERCE stated that during the conversation her sister had expressed a concern for PIERCE, being in Memphis during the riot, and this led to a discussion of the circumstances concerning Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING's death.

PIERCE stated that she uses the name LaBELLA when calling her sister in Indiana, due to the fact that she, PIERCE,

PIERCE stated that there is no such person as DENO or DEE LaBELLA.

PIERCE stated that on the night of April 4, 1968, at about 6:00 PM, she was traveling in connection with their business with DEE ARAMIAS. PIERCE stated that at about

On 4/12/68 at Walls, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-58
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. / mlt Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

6:00 PM on April 4, 1968, she and ARANIAS had been in Biloxi, Mississippi, and recalled checking both herself and ARANIAS into the Holiday Inn at Biloxi.

PIERCE advised that she is presently driving a 1968 Chevrolet, sea frost green in color, with a black vinyl top, and Tennessee license. PIERCE further stated that this is a company car, and that she does not own a personal car. PIERCE further advised that she also has access to a Buick Wildcat and a 1968 Chevy II.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mrs. GLORIA GIBSON, Clerk, Personnel Department, Day-Brite Lighting Company, Incorporated, South Green Street, and Day-Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, made available the time cards for JOHN H. WILLARD for review. These time cards revealed the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>
Friday, March 29, 1968	6:46	3:32
Saturday, March 30, 1968	6:45	3:31
Sunday, March 31, 1968	No Work	
Monday, April 1, 1968	6:46	3:32
Tuesday, April 2, 1968	6:45	3:31
Wednesday, April 3, 1968	6:45	3:31
Thursday, April 4, 1968	6:46	3:32

Mrs. GIBSON advised that a review of the personnel records at Day-Brite failed to reveal any record of a HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOEFMEYER, or ERIC STARVO GALT, as being a current or past employee of the company.

She also stated that the records did not reveal that there are any other JOHN WILLIARDS employed at the company other than the JOHN H. WILLARD mentioned above.

On 4/12/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-57
 by SA JOHN S. CASTLES
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN JSC/wgj Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

STERLING LEWIS GILLIS, Park Drive, McComb, Mississippi, who is known to SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, was contacted by telephone at his residence at 8:40 p.m., April 4, 1968. Mr. GILLIS was sleeping at that time according to his wife.

Mr. GILLIS advised that he was not aware of the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, that he had been at his home with his family all afternoon and evening and that no one would know of his whereabouts other than his wife and immediate family.

Mr. GILLIS advised that he has not been in the Memphis, Tennessee area in years and could furnish no information regarding the assassination of Reverend KING.

On 4/4/68 at McComb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-56
Jackson 157-2400
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/pac Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mrs. PAUL DEWEY WILSON, wife of PAUL DEWEY WILSON, was contacted at her home in rural Jayess, Mississippi, in Lawrence County, Mississippi, by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, who advised her of his identity and the nature of the inquiry.

Mrs. WILSON advised that her husband continues to work on a drilling rig in the Gulf of Mexico off the Louisiana coast. She advised that he went out to his job on Sunday, March 31, 1968, and would not return until Sunday night, April 7, 1968. She advised that she is certain that her husband is still out in the Gulf of Mexico as he drove some three other men to their job in his red Mustang the past Sunday. She advised that when he goes out in the Gulf of Mexico, he cannot get back to land unless there is an extreme emergency until his seven days are up.

On 4/5/68 at Jayess, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542.55
Jackson 157-2094
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/pac Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

MURPHY JOHN DUNCAN, JR., contacted at his rural Ruth, Mississippi residence in Pike County, Mississippi, by telephone, was advised by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, who is well known to DUNCAN, of the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. DUNCAN advised that he was expecting some kind of contact by the FBI, that he has been at his residence all afternoon and evening with members of his immediate family.

DUNCAN who was contacted at 8:43 p.m., advised that he could furnish no information regarding the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. DUNCAN advised that he worked for the county supervisor until approximately 4:00 p.m., drove to his residence after work, and had not been out of his house since arriving home from work.

On 4/4/68 at Ruth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-54
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/pac Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

Mr. R. B. TULLOS, Manager, Laundry, Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

He said that the Mississippi State University Laundry had two Thermo Seal machines which he utilized in marking khaki clothing three or four years ago. He stated that he does not know the serial number of these machines but that to the best of his recollection, he believes that he transferred these two Thermo Seal machines two or three years ago to the laundry at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi. He knows for positive that he has not used the Thermo Seal machines for at least three years. The only marking machines that he currently has in the plant is a Tag-O-Lectric which is manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company of Syracuse, New York. This machine bears Serial #23730.

On 4/10/68 at State College, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-53
by SA LYNN P. SMITH:mah Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

The below-captioned individuals were telephonically contacted to determine if their files contained any information relative to ERIC STARVO GALT. The results of these contacts were negative:

DOROTHY WRIGHT, Manager, Credit Bureau of West Point, West Point, Mississippi;

JESSIE REYNOLDS, Manager, Credit Bureau of Starkville, Starkville, Mississippi;

Mrs. W. J. GILLESPIE, Manager, Credit Bureau of Aberdeen, Mississippi;

MARY HUCKAREE, Credit Bureau of Columbus, Columbus, Mississippi;

EARLINE LIVINGSTON, Merchant Credit Association, Louisville, Mississippi;

JAMES FOWLER, Identification Officer, West Point, Police Department, West Point, Mississippi;

VIRGIL MIDDLETON, Sheriff, Clay County, West Point, Mississippi;

H. H. WALTERS, Chief of Detectives, Columbus Police Department, Columbus, Mississippi;

RICHARD POPERNICK, Chief of Police, Louisville Police Department, Louisville, Mississippi;

LENA SCURRIA, City Clerk, Starkville, Mississippi;

On 4/9/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-52
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG & SA LYNN P. SMITH:BWW/pdb Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

DAN ADAMS, Chief of Police, Aberdeen Police
Department, Aberdeen, Mississippi;

NOBLE GARRETT, Chief of Police, Amory Police
Department, Amory, Mississippi.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. ERNEST LEVON WILSON, 115 Montana Avenue, McComb, Mississippi, contacted the McComb Resident Agency of the FBI on April 9, 1968, and advised that he was contacted by a Mrs. MARTIN who operates "The Chef" in Brookhaven, Mississippi and advised that the "FBI" was by her home asking about him on April 7, 1968.

Mr. WILSON advised that from what Mrs. MARTIN told him, he feels certain he must be the party SA REESIE L. TIMMONS was seeking. He advised that he not only is a wholesale drug salesman, he drives a white 1967 Chevrolet, was in "The Chef" at midnight April 4, 1968, talking about the Rev. KING's assassination and was originally from Lincoln County.

Mr. WILSON advised that he sat at the counter with some six to eight unknown truck drivers and related a radio broadcast he had just heard on his way from Jackson, Mississippi to Brookhaven.

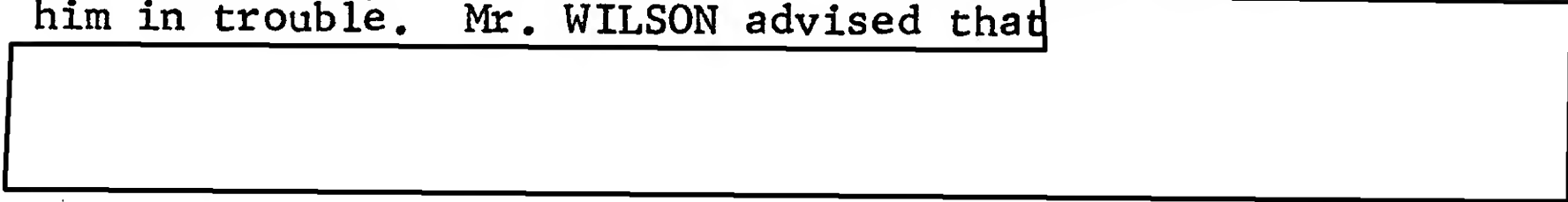
Mr. WILSON advised that the station broadcast an interview with a man in Memphis, Tennessee, who stated on the air that he saw a man throw a rifle and bag of some kind into his "amusement center" that must have been the rifle used in the assassination. He stated that the man stated on the air that he only saw the man's back and could not identify him. Mr. WILSON advised he did not make any statement about where the rifle was purchased or that if it was wrapped in a blanket to muffle the sound, nor did he hear anyone else at the place make such a statement.

On 4/9/68 at McComb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-51
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/brh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586.

Mr. WILSON advised that Mrs. MARTIN told him she did not tell the FBI of his presence as she has known him all her life and did not want to get him in trouble. Mr. WILSON advised that



Mr. WILSON advised he knows nothing further about the conversation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. ERNEST LEVON WILSON, 115 Montana Avenue, McComb, Mississippi, on April 7, 1968 advised that he is a wholesale drug salesman for Meyer Brothers Drug Company, Jackson, Mississippi, traveling in eight counties of Southwest Mississippi.

Mr. WILSON who is known to SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, advised that he is certain there is no man by the name of KIMBLE (Phonetic) traveling in Southwest Mississippi as a drug salesman.

On 4/7/68 at McComb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-50
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/brh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mrs. GRADY MARTIN, JR., Route 2, Bogue Chitto, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, who also advised her that she did not have to furnish any information, that any information she did furnish could be used in a court of law and that she could contact an attorney or anyone else at any time.

Mrs. MARTIN advised that she is the owner and operator of "The Chef" in Brookhaven, Mississippi, the only all-night truck stop from Jackson, Mississippi to the vicinity of New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mrs. MARTIN advised that she and one other girl worked the counter and tables at the cafe on the night of April 4, 1968. She advised the other waitress, worked only that one night and is a stranger to the Brookhaven, Mississippi area. She advised that during the night some four to six people (probably truck drivers) came into the place who stated they were in Memphis when Dr. KING was killed. She could not recall the names of any of them. She advised that at some time during the night a man did make a statement that the "blanket being used to muffle the sound of the rifle and the rifle being thrown into a store where they keep juke boxes."

Mrs. MARTIN could furnish no information regarding the identity of the party who made the above statement. She could not recall anything being said about where the rifle was purchased. She advised she does not know anything about a man by the name of JESSE KIMBALL who works for a wholesale drug store or pharmaceutical company in Brookhaven, or anyone who

On 4/7/68 at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-49

by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/brh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

drives a white late model Chevrolet who may have made such statements. She advised that with the new girl working for her, she was very busy and simply does not recall who was in the place during that night. She recalled that many discussed the assassination in some manner, but she could recall only the statement about the blanket being used to muffle the rifle.

Mrs. MARTIN advised that should she remember anything further about the conversation, or who was present, she would contact the FBI.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mr. CHALMERS LANE, Director, Ellisville State School, advised that there is no one employed at the school by the following names:

JOHN WILLARD,
HARVEY LOWMEYER,
HARVEY LOWMYER,
ERIC S. GALT.

Mr. LANE further advised that the only male employee who was off work in late March and early April was RICHARD DUHON. DUHON did not work the following days due to normal days off and reported illness: March 27, 28, 29, 1968, and April 3, 4, 5, 1968.

Mr. LANE stated that according to his employment records DUHON who has been employed for approximately two months is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	39
Height	Five feet eight inches
Build	Medium
Hair	Dark brown and wavy
Characteristics	Slight French appearance
Address	Moselle, Mississippi
Employment	Attendant, Men's Dormitory, Ellisville State School.

On 4/11/68 at Ellisville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-48

SA BERNARD C. LANG:ccs

4/11/68

by _____ Date dictated _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

R. B. TULLOS, manager, Mississippi State Laundry, Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi, telephonically furnished the following information:

He said he was mistaken regarding the Thermo-Seal machine bearing Serial Number 31214 and Serial Number 31215 having been given to the University of Mississippi at Oxford, Mississippi two or three years ago.

He said a complete check of the records of the Mississippi State Laundry discloses that the two marking machines referred to above were turned over to the Ellisville State School, Ellisville, Mississippi in August, 1965, by the authorities at the Mississippi State Laundry, State College, Mississippi.

On 4/10/68 at Columbis, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-872-47
by SA LYNN P. SMITH/brh Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mrs. LONNIE RAY KILLEN, Route 4, Union, Mississippi, was contacted by SA's DONALD J. CESARE and JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR., who immediately advised her of their identities as special agents of the FBI. Mrs. KILLEN was advised of the nature of the interview and voluntarily furnished the following information:

Mrs. KILLEN identified herself as the mother of EDGAR RAY KILLEN. She stated EDGAR had been "logging and sawing" as of late near Brandon, Mississippi, and would not return home until 8:00 or 8:30 p.m. each evening. She stated that EDGAR RAY is married, but does not have any children.

She related that she has five sons including EDGAR RAY. All but one married son reside with her at home. One son, ROY GENE, also known as "shorty", lives at the home adjacent to hers with his wife. ROY GENE is employed at the Midland Shirt Company in Union, Mississippi. The other sons she identified as JERRY, age 29, born February 27, 1939; DON, age 26, born June 28, 1942; and, BOBBY, age 36, born December 20, 1932. She further advised that DON is employed by Barnett's Electric Company of Philadelphia and that BOBBY and JERRY work with EDGAR RAY logging.

Mrs. KILLEN stated that none of her sons have been out of the state or on any extended trips during the past year or so. She stated that to the best of her recollection all her sons were at home on March 29, 1968, and March 30, 1968. She further recalled that at the time of the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968, she was watching television

On 4/9/68 at Union, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-46
by SA DONALD J. CESARE & SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR.:DJC/pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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JN 157-9586

advising of the incident. At the time she remembered EDGAR RAY relate to the other members of the family gathered to watch that it was a good thing that he was not in Memphis.

Mrs. KILLEN could furnish no further information.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

MARTIN KOGON, also known as Marty, advised that he is the manager of the Midland Shirt Company, Union, Mississippi. He advised that ROY GENE KILLEN is an employee of that company. He advised that according to their records (time clock), ROY KILLEN arrived for work on 6:40 a.m. and departed at 4:12 p.m. on March 29, 1968. He said that March 30, 1968, was a Saturday and that they did not operate on that date. He said that on April 4, 1968, ROY KILLEN checked in at 6:40 a.m. and departed at 4:12 p.m. He added that KILLEN has been employed with his company for several months and is a good employee.

KOGON described KILLEN as follows:

Name	ROY GENE KILLEN
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	April 7, 1929
Place of birth	Neshoba County, Mississippi
Height	6'2"
Weight	190
Hair	Dark
Education	Three years high school
Marital status	Married; has no children

On 4/9/68 at Union, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-45
by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR. & SA DONALD J. CESAREO JHP/pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

RAYMOND L. WILSON, Supervisor of Maintenance, Ellisville State School, made available sample markings of the state school laundry marking machines described below:

Thermo - Seal
Identification Machine
Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc.
Syracuse, New York
Model Number H5K2
Serial Number 31214

Thermo - Seal
Identification Machine
Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc.
Syracuse, New York
Model Number H5K2
Serial Number 31215

According to Mr. WILSON, these marking machines are used only to mark employees' laundry. Usually, the employee's name or initials and numbers are used in the markings.

Mr. WILSON pointed out that the red samples were made on machine with serial number 31214; and he stated that metal staples were never used in these markings tags to his knowledge.

4/10/68 at Ellisville, Mississippi

File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-44

SA BERNARD C. LANG/bkh

4/10/68

Date dictated

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Reverend EDGAR RAY KILLEN was contacted at his home and made aware of the identity of the interviewing agent and advised of the nature of the inquiry.

KILLEN stated that as best he can recall he and his two brothers, JERRY and BOBBY, were employed at their mill in Brandon, Mississippi, on March 29-30, 1968. He said that he definitely recalls that he and BOBBY were at the mill on April 4, 1968, and that JERRY was in the woods cutting logs. KILLEN said that he is married, but has no children. He added that his other two brothers, DONALD and ROY were at their respective employments. KILLEN added that all his brothers live at home with their mother and father with the exception of ROY who lives nearby in a small house. He added that he recalls that all were home on the evening when the news of the murder of Reverend KING was heard.

KILLEN stated that he did not desire to comment regarding the death of KING since anything he might say could be taken the wrong way.

On 4/9/68 at Neshoba County, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-43

by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR.:pdb Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

DONALD KILLEN was contacted by agents at the J. F. Barnett Electric and Plumbing Company, 279 West Beacon Street. The identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the inquiry were made known to KILLEN. He was advised by SA RUCKER that he did not have to talk with the agents and that anything he did say could be used against him in a court of law. He was told that he could consult with an attorney of his own choice before making any statement and could have an attorney with him during interview if he so desired. No threats or promises were made to induce KILLEN to talk with the agents. An attempt was made to allow KILLEN to read a warning and waiver of rights form, which form he declined to read or sign.

KILLEN denied having played any part or having knowledge, other than what he had heard or read in the news, about the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He related that he is employed at the Barnett Electric and Plumbing Company in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and that he did not work on the afternoon of April 4, 1968. He said that he could not recall his whereabouts on March 29 and 30, 1968. KILLEN did say that he does recall that on April 4, 1968, shortly after 6:00 p.m. he was at his home in rural Philadelphia, Mississippi, watching television when his television program was interrupted with a special announcement of KING's having been shot in Memphis, Tennessee. KILLEN then terminated the interview by saying that he was the brother of EDGAR RAY KILLEN who has been arrested by FBI agents in the past and "I'm a God-fearing man and have nothing further to say."

The following descriptive data was obtained obtained through observation:

On 4/9/68 at Philadelphia, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-42
by SA JOHN B. RUCKER, JR. & JBR
SA FRANK B. WATTS:JBR/pdb Date dictated 4/12/68

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JN 157-9586

Name	DONALD KILLEN
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	December 20, 1936
Place of birth	Philadelphia, Mississippi
Height	5'10"
Weight	155-160
Hair	Black
Build	Medium
Features	Sharp

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

M. D. HOOD was contacted at his place of employment, Hood Laundry. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. He furnished the following information:

HOOD stated that he purchased the Amory Steam Laundry during the first part of 1964 from FLOYD AGNEW. He stated that he sold the laundry in May, 1964, to W. J. DUNCAN. HOOD continued that during the time he operated the laundry, he knew of no marking machine utilized by the laundry other than the national marking machines that are presently at that laundry. He stated if there was a Thermo-seal machine in use prior to his owning the laundry, Mr. AGNEW would have this information. He stated he did not know AGNEW's location, except that he lived in Mobile, Alabama; however, AGNEW's son-in-law, C. H. HESTER, would know AGNEW's address.

On 4/10/68 at Amory, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-41
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG: cmb Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

W. J. DUNCAN was contacted at his place of employment, Duncan Steam Laundry. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. He furnished the following information:

DUNCAN stated he is the owner-manager of the Duncan Steam Laundry. He stated he purchased this laundry from M. D. HOOD in May, 1964, and took over operation on May 4, 1964. He stated the laundry was originally known as the Amory Steam Laundry.

DUNCAN stated that he has two marking machines, which he uses to mark laundry. He stated that both of these machines are national marking machines which are manufactured by the National Marking Machine Company, Cincinnati Ohio. The serial numbers of these machines are 1158-C and 1155-C.

DUNCAN continued that when he took over operation of the laundry, there were also three other marking machines; however, these machines were obsolete and broken down. He stated two of them were national marking machines and the other was a perfection marker which was manufactured in Denver, Colorado. He stated that the machines now in operation were there when he took operation of the laundry and to his knowledge, had been in use at the laundry for several years prior to his taking over control.

DUNCAN stated that his marking machines do not use tape. He marks laundry right on the garment. The ink utilized is indelible black ink. He stated the only code he uses has the initials of the persons or the owner of the laundry, and a dash and a number designation, which is utilized for deliveries by his laundry in the surrounding area. This number designation goes from one to five; the number one being deliveries in Amory, Mississippi, and orders ~~which are brought into the laundry and picked up at the laundry.~~

On 4/10/68 at Amory, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-40
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG: cmb Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

Numbers two through five are route numbers, the routes of which are designated by the laundry. He stated that he knew nothing concerning a Thermoseal machine but the previous owner, M. D. HOOD, may know if a Thermoseal machine was utilized by the laundry.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

C. H. HESTER, 801-12th Avenue North, was contacted at his place of employment, the Mississippi National Guard, Amory, Mississippi. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and he furnished the following information:

HESTER stated that his father-in-law, FLOYD AGNEW, is currently the manager at the Ramada Inn in Mobile, Alabama. He stated his father-in-law's address is 2212 St. Teresa, Mobile, Alabama.

HESTER stated he does not know very much about his father-in-law's operation of the Amory Steam Laundry, but he does recall that when laundry was marked, it was marked in indelible ink on the garment and the marking had the initials of the garment owner, then a single numeral designation which was utilized for route delivery in and around the Amory, Mississippi, area. He stated he did not know what brand of machinery is father-in-law utilized at the laundry.

On 4/10/68 at Amory, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-39
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG: cmb Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

M. E. TOOTLE, Manager, base laundry, Keesler Air Force Base, advised that his business employs four Thermo-Seal machines manufactured by Textile Marking Machines Company, Syracuse, New York.

Mr. TOOTLE advised that to the best of his knowledge, his is the only laundry on the Gulf Coast which utilizes the Thermo-Seal marking machines. He advised that the machine is supplied with tapes which come in eleven various colors, including the color red and he stated his employees merely rotate the color and that therefore, colors have no significance per se.

He further stated that the marking system which he devised for himself, reflects the lot number, employees initials, and bundle number. Mr. TOOTLE advised that his company would not use either of the following codings:

02B-6 or D2B-6.

Mr. TOOTLE made available the following samples from his Thermo-Seal machines as indicated below for submission to the FBI Laboratory for analysis and comparison:

<u>Number of Tape</u>	<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Serial Number of machines</u>
5	02B-6	33746
5	D2B-6	33746
5	D2B-6	33891

On 4/11/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson, 157-9586-872-38

by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR./brh Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

<u>Number of Tape</u>	<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Serial Number of machines</u>
5	D2B-6	33743
5	O2B-6	33891
4	D2B-6	33742
4	O2B-6	33743
5	O2B-6	33742

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

F. M. VAUGHAN, Assistant Manager, Hunter Distributing Company, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

The Hunter Distributing Company, which distributes Schlitz beer in the Columbus, Mississippi, area, did not receive any shipments of beer from Longview, Texas, dated March 15, 1968. He explained that the code 03/158 meant that the beer was shipped from Longview, Texas, on that date.

He stated that they received three cars of beer with beer dated March 28, 1968, and that they received one car of beer with beer dated March 14, 1968, but none dated March 15, 1968.

On 4/12/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-37
by SA LYNN P. SMITH /blw Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

FLORENCE MARSHALL, Marshall Motel, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. She made available the registration records of the Marshall Motel, a Friendship Inn.

The registration records for the Marshall Motel were searched for the names HARVEY LOWMEYER, JOHN WILLARD, WILLIAM DELL LEHMEYER and ERIC STARVOGALT. The records failed to reflect that any of these individuals had stayed at the Marshall Motel from a period of March 20, 1968 through April 3, 1968.

Mrs. MARSHALL stated that since the first of the year their motel has not lost any articles, including towels, bedspreads, et cetera from the motel.

She further stated that their motel uses Cashmere Bouquet soap and this soap is wrapped in Cashmere Bouquet wrapping. She stated the motel has not ~~exhausted~~ its supply of this soap, but when it does, they will use soap bearing a Friendship Inn label.

On 4/11/68 at WEST POINT, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-572-36
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG /jdh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mrs. GRACE ROSCHELLE, 946 Myrtlewood Street, Jackson, Mississippi, telephonically advised as follows on this date:

She said her husband, RAYMOND ROSCHELLE, had stopped at a truck stop in Brookhaven, Mississippi, managed or operated by a Mrs. (first name unknown) MARTIN on the late evening of April 4, 1968. She said her husband overheard a conversation that one JESSIE KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, a white male from Brookhaven, Mississippi, had been having with some truck drivers at the truck stop. She said her husband told her that KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, who appeared to have been drinking, said he had just arrived from Memphis, and made some remarks about MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s being shot there and about a blanket muffling the shot from the assassin. She said her husband continued that KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, related information that the gun used by the assassin had been purchased at a Sears, Roebuck and Company Store in Memphis, Tennessee, on Jefferson or Poplar Street. She said her husband overheard KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, to say he worked for a wholesale drugstore or pharmaceutical company in Brookhaven.

Mrs. ROSCHELLE said her husband told her that KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, was driving a late model white Chevrolet but her husband had been unable to obtain the license number. She said her husband did not want to be contacted by the FBI in this regard. She said the information she had provided from her husband could possibly have a bearing on the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. ROSCHELLE said she does not have a telephone at her residence but, if necessary, can be contacted at the home of a neighbor at telephone number 352-6010.

On 4/6/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-35
by SA THOMAS FITZ PATRICK / cmb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

FRED STRANGE, owner, Fred Strange Motor Company, Incorporated, 811 Varsity Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, advised that his records reveal that JOHN MILBURN WILLARD, whose wife is CAROL was employed as a mechanic by the company between September 6, 1963, and March 5, 1964, and his local residence was 328 North Madison Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and later 2929 Bogan Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi. STRANGE said his records reveal that WILLARD left employ of his company of his own volition allegedly to return to Sedalia, Missouri.

STRANGE said that his records indicate that WILLARD has had previous employment at Sowers Motors, Incorporated, Rollo, Missouri; Druitt Motor Company, Sedalia, Missouri, and Kinder Motors, Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He stated that at this time he believes JOHN MILBURN WILLARD is employed with his former service manager, J. W. SHEPHERD at a Volkswagen Company in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. STRANGE said that WILLARD was a satisfactory employee and to the best of his recollection he was a white male, according to records, was born August 13, 1935, is 5 feet 4 inches, weight approximately 110 pounds, black hair parts on the left side.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-34
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES:yv Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mrs. JOAN EDWARDS, Manager, Credit Bureau of Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that her files reveal that one JOHN M. WILLARD, 2929 Bogan Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, was employed by Fred Strange Motor Company in January of 1964. The record indicates that WILLARD had previous employments at Sedalia, Missouri, and Rolla, Missouri, and the credit check at that time was being conducted for Universal CIT.

Mrs. EDWARDS advised that JOHN M. WILLARD had a satisfactory credit record in Tupelo, Mississippi, and that no inquiry has been made concerning him since January of 1964.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-33
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES:yv Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

RAY ADAMS, Manager, Columbus Motel, affiliate of the Friendship Motels, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, reviewed his registration records from March 20, 1968, through April 3, 1968, for the following names and advised none of these names could be located in these records:

JOHN WILLARD
HARVEY LOWMEYER, HA
HARVEY LONYER
ERIC STARVO GALT
2608 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, Alabama

The records were also checked for a white Mustang bearing Alabama license 1-389-93 for the same time with negative results.

On 4/11/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-32
by SA LYNN P. SMITH:pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mr. LONNIE PHIL SMITH was recontacted at the Veterans Administration Hospital (VA) and was shown an artist's conception of an unknown subject who meets the description of the person who shot Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., at Memphis, Tennessee. This conception was obtained through interviews at Memphis. He was also shown an artist's conception of an unknown subject who meets the description of unknown subject who was in Birmingham, Alabama during pertinent period.

After viewing both artist's conceptions, Mr. SMITH advised that he could not identify either as being identical or closely resembling anyone with whom he has had previous contact. Specifically, he stated he could not identify either of the individuals described in the photographs as being identical with the individual he met at the Economy Boarding House in Birmingham, Alabama during September, 1967, who drove him to Leeds, Alabama.

On 4/15/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-31
by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.,/brh Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mr. LONNIE PHIL SMITH was contacted at the Veterans Administration Hospital (VA). SMITH was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and furnished the following information:

SMITH is presently a patient, suffering from failing eye sight and an arthritic condition who has been assigned to domiciliary number 2 since March 15, 1968. Prior to his admission at the Biloxi VA Hospital, he was a patient at the VA Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, having been first admitted there December 3, 1967. SMITH has worked as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) in Birmingham, Alabama. He was last employed as an LPN at the Hanover House Nursing Home in Birmingham for one week in September, 1967, he believes the dates to be September 2, 1967 to September 9, 1967.

He had a room at the Economy Boarding House. SMITH could not remember the room number and indicated that he was not particularly friendly with other roomers in that dwelling. During the week he spent at the Economy Boarding House in September, he became acquainted with an individual also rooming at the Economy Boarding House whom he described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	Middle or late 20's
Height	Medium
Weight	170
Build	Medium
Hair	Brown, business cut.

On 4/13/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-30

SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.,/brh

4/15/68

Date dictated

commendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to
not to be distributed outside your agency.

This
your age

Characteristics

Well-mannered and always
well-dressed

During the week he spent at the Economy Boarding House, exact date unrecalled, the individual described above drove SMITH in his (SMITH's) vehicle to Leeds, Alabama, to visit SMITH's dying brother. This trip, which took one day, resulted in this individual meeting SMITH's sister-in-law, FRANCIS SMITH, and her daughter, GAIL SMITH in Leeds, Alabama. FRANCIS SMITH is presently employed as a nurse at the Leeds Hospital in Leeds, Alabama. During the entire period of SMITH's contact with the above described individual, SMITH advised he does not believe the man identified himself by name. He stated the man did very little talking about himself and would only respond to questions. SMITH advised that one thing he remembered was that the man indicated that he was an artist and he gave SMITH the impression he was not employed at present.

The individual described above, who drove with him to Leeds, Alabama, appeared to be friends with (First name unknown) CHEETER (Phonetic), the owner of the Economy Boarding House. SMITH advised he saw this individual speaking with CHEETER several times during the week he stayed at the Economy Boarding House. SMITH advised further that during the entire period of his stay at the Economy Boarding House, he was under extreme nervous tension and was distraut. He advised that he could not recall anything else concerning the individual described above, but that should he recall anything further, he would immediately contact the FBI.

SMITH advised that he did not recognize any of the following names as being identical with people he had previously met:

JN 157-9586

JOHN WILLARD

HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER

ERIC STARVO GALT

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	LONNIE PHIL SMITH
Home address	Route 1, Eastaboga, Alabama
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	July 22, 1916
Place of birth	Gallant, Alabama
Height	5'8"
Weight	150
Hair	Brown, grey
Eyes	Blue

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

DAVID MARLON BREWER, 1043 Pyle Street, Jackson, Mississippi, telephone number 352-6813, was interviewed at his place of employment, Hôdges Engineering Company, 5175 Galaxie Street, Jackson, Mississippi. BREWER was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry. He furnished the following voluntary information:

BREWER advised that he is the owner of a 1965 black Mustang convertible with a white top and the vehicle has 1968 Mississippi license HB-9317 on it. This tag was purchased for a 1962 Ford Falcon which was sold to a teenager in Jackson, Mississippi, and BREWER removed the tag and placed it on the Mustang when he purchased it, without advising anyone of the transfer of license plate. BREWER advised that he has not been in this Mustang recently since he was having trouble making the monthly payments and he let OSCAR WORD, an employee of the Briarwood Texaco Station, Interstate 55 North, Jackson, Mississippi, take over the vehicle and the monthly payments in February, 1968. BREWER advised that WORD has been having trouble with his wife recently and about a week ago, she took the Mustang and their children and left WORD, allegedly going to stay with her mother at Las Vegas, Nevada. About Wednesday, April 10, 1968, WORD found out where his wife was in Nevada and took a bus there immediately to either bring her back or bring the Mustang vehicle back.

BREWER advised he has not seen WORD for about a week but believes he will be back at work at the Briarwood Texaco Station as soon as he returns to Mississippi.

BREWER described OSCAR WORD as follows:

On 4/15/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-29
by SA SAMUEL N. JENNINGS:ccs Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	About 36 years of age
Height	Six feet tall
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Dark brown, curly
Complexion	Dark
Scars	Scar over bridge of nose
Employment	Briarwood Texaco Station, Interstate 55 North, Jackson, Mississippi,
Marital Status	Married
Children	Three or four school children.

BREWER described himself as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Terry, Mississippi
Height	Five feet eleven inches
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Green
Scars	One inch scar on outside of left eye.
Employment	Employed for about 2 years at Hodges Engineering Company, 5175 Galaxie Street, Jackson
Marital Status	Married
Children	One son, DAVID BREWER, JR., age 1.

BREWER advised that the manager of the Briarwood Texaco Service Station, Mr. JACK C. PETERS, would be able

JN 157-9586

to assist in locating OSCAR WORD in the event he has not returned to work in Jackson. BREWER said he feels certain WORD would have been the individual driving the above Mustang convertible in Oklahoma on April 13, 1968, and very likely WORD was returning to Mississippi with this vehicle.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mrs. W. J. BAKER, Circuit Clerk, Pontotoc County, Mississippi, advised that the Circuit Court records reveal that one JOHN H. WILLARD of Pontotoc County, Mississippi, was indicted by the Circuit Court Grand Jury during the June term of 1958 for arson. When WILLARD appeared in court he entered a plea of guilty and was placed on probation for three years, which probation terminated May 3, 1961.

Mrs. BAKER advised that she is not personally acquainted with WILLARD but stated that in 1958 Mr. M. C. HEMBREE, who currently resides in the Ecrú community of Pontotoc County, Mississippi, was sheriff.

On 4/5/68 at Pontotoc, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-28
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mrs. JOAN EDWARDS, manager, Credit Bureau of Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that she has no file identifiable with JOHN H. WILLARD; however, she stated she knows WILLARD personally through his wife, BARBARA WILLARD, who formerly worked for Mrs. EDWARDS at the Tupelo Credit Bureau and is presently the manager of the Credit Bureau at Oxford, Mississippi.

Mrs. EDWARDS stated that she has personal knowledge that JOHN H. WILLARD is presently employed at the Day Brite Lighting Company, Incorporated, Tupelo, Mississippi. She stated that as far as she knows, JOHN WILLARD is an honest, trustworthy individual, who does not normally get involved in any type of trouble. She stated that to the best of her knowledge WILLARD presently owns a pickup truck and his wife drives a new 1968 white Volkswagen. Mrs. EDWARDS stated that she has never known WILLARD to be a radical individual; nor has she ever known him to carry any firearms.

Mrs. EDWARDS stated that she could not furnish any additional information concerning JOHN H. WILLARD, since she and Mrs. WILLARD are not in daily contact since BARBARA WILLARD is no longer employed at the Tupelo Credit Bureau.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-27
by SA DONALD H. GREENE:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/68

ROBERT A. MC PHERSON, Mississippi Wholesale Hardware, Columbus, Mississippi, stated that he knew of no Compag or Rompage Hardware in or around the area of Columbus, Mississippi. He stated that the only way he would be able to check something like this would be through Dunn and Bradstreet and even at that, he would have to have the name of a city.

On 4/5/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-26
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG & SA LAWRENCE W. GORMAN:BWW:mif Date dictated 4/5/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/68

SONNY SMITH, clerk, G and H Liggett Rexall Drug Company, Columbus, Mississippi, stated he could not recall selling any articles to an individual answering the description of the unknown subject.

On 4/5/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-25
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG & SA LAWRENCE W. GORMAN:BWW:mif Date dictated 4/5/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/68

TOMMY HARROLSON, manager and owner, G and H Liggett Rexall Drugstore, furnished the following information:

HARROLSON stated that cash-register receipts for cash purchases made in his drugstore are automatically dated by the cash register. He stated that each cash-register receipt carries the title

G and H
Rexall Drug
Columbus, Mississippi

Following this heading is the date of the purchase and below the date of the purchase is the amount of the purchase.

HARROLSON stated that each cash-register receipt has a number; however, these numbers are immaterial to the business of his store. He stated that when the numbers reach a level which he thinks is high, he flips a switch on the cash register and the numbers start over. Therefore, the numbers mean nothing and no information concerning the accounting procedure of the store is filed by these numbers.

HARROLSON continued that the only other tickets handled by his drugstore are charge tickets, which carry the name G and H Liggett Rexall Drugstore, Columbus, Mississippi. He stated that the date has to be written in by a clerk and the numbers on these receipts go only to 50.

by SA BRENT W. WARBERG & SA LAWRENCE W. GORMAN:BWW:mif at Columbus, Mississippi Date dictated 4/5/68 File # Jackson 157-9586-572-24

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JN 157-9586

HARROLSON stated that his drugstore does put price tags on some articles. He stated that these price tags are labeled Liggett Rexall, and then the price of the article is written on the price tag and the price tag is put on the article.

HARROLSON stated that sacks in which merchandise is placed do not carry the name of his drugstore. He stated that the only other labels used by his drugstore are the labels which are put on prescriptions and that these carry the name G and H Rexall Drugs, Columbus, Mississippi; however, these are not placed on toilet articles.

HARROLSON continued that Liggett Rexall Drugs is a chain operation throughout the South. He stated that his drugstore is the only Liggett Rexall Drugs in the state of Mississippi; however, other Liggett Rexall Drugs are predominant in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

HARROLSON was given a description of the unknown subject, and he stated he could not recall having sold any Head and Shoulders shampoo or Palmolive Rapid Shave to any individual answering this description.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

THOMAS N. BEARD, JR., Officer Manager, Long's Laundry and Cleaners, 130 East Main Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry, advised that his organization has two Thermal-seal marking machines manufactured by Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. Mr. BEARD stated that these marking machines are used only on laundry and are not used on dry-cleaning.

Mr. BEARD stated that the code "02B6" or "D2B6" are not codes used by his company. Mr. BEARD made available two samples of marking tapes, one sample being a striped white and blue tape with the number 66B 1 and a pink tag tape with number 67 B 1 on it. Mr. BEARD stated that the first numerals appearing before the letter are numbered 1 to 100 which denotes the lot number. He stated the letter B would be the first hundred tickets in the lot number, and after 100, would appear a double letter; for example, BB. Mr. BEARD stated the last number, #1, would be the ticket number in the lot. Mr. BEARD stated that his above two colors are the only two colors used by his laundry, and that they do not use a red-colored marking tape.

Mr. BEARD could offer no information concerning the identity of the laundry using the code 02B 6 or D2B 6. He stated that each individual laundry uses their own code.

Mr. BEARD stated that inasmuch as his company was in the process of running full production on laundry,

On 4/10/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-23

by SA FRANCIS. G. HONAN/bjk Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

he could not change his machines to stamp out a code number 02B 6 inasmuch as he would have to run his machine completely through its series and then start over, and this would be impractical to do at the present time.

Mr. BEARD further advised that his company does not keep permanent records concerning customers; however, stated that the following names were not familiar to him:

JOHN WILLARD;
HARVEY LOWMEYER;
HARVEY LOWMYER or ERIC STARVAL GALT

Mr. BEARD stated that the above machines, which bears serial numbers 11803 and 11804, are the only textile marking machine company machines used by his company in Tupelo, Mississippi. He further stated that he knows of no other laundries in Tupelo, Mississippi, that use this marking machine.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

OSCAR MAYNARD WORD, 3434 Midlawn Street, Jackson, Mississippi, in care of Mrs. M. M. HEARD, telephone number 366-8209, was interviewed at his place of employment, Briarwood Texaco Service Station, 5575 Interstate 55 North, Jackson, Mississippi. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the nature of the inquiry.

WORD advised that about one week ago his wife, MARY, took their five children and his Mustang automobile and left him, driving to the home of her mother in Las Vegas, Nevada. WORD subsequently found out where she was and left Jackson, Mississippi, on Wednesday, April 10, 1968, to go and get her or at least pick up the automobile which he had only made two payments on.

He stated he hitched a ride and also traveled by bus part of the way to Nevada. He stated he obtained the black Mustang convertible with a white top from his wife and drove it back to Mississippi alone. He stated he passed through Oklahoma City late Saturday afternoon.

WORD advised he arrived back in Jackson, Mississippi, Sunday night, first stopping by his place of employment and then checking into Baker Motel, Highway 49, North Jackson. He stayed in Unit Number 8 of this motel for one night. He stated he plans to live with his mother temporarily in Jackson since he and his wife are now separated.

WORD stated that the Mustang which he now has possession of was purchased by DAVID BREWER, an acquaintance of his at Jackson, Mississippi, but BREWER was unable to keep up the monthly payments and let WORD have the vehicle on February 12, 1968, letting WORD take up the payments.

On 4/15/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-22
by SA SAMUEL N. JENNINGS/bkh Date dictated 4/16/68

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WORD advised that the Mississippi License Plate which is on the Mustang now, 1968 Mississippi HB-9317, is the same license plate that has been on the vehicle since he obtained it. He stated he understands BREWER bought this license plate for a Ford Falcon but switched it to the Mustang after selling the Falcon.

WORD advised he works regularly at the Briarwood Texaco Service Station from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. six days a week and has not been off from work any this year other than the trip to Nevada mentioned above. He stated he is off each Thursday all day which is his regular day off. WORD advised he has not been in Memphis, Tennessee, or Birmingham, Alabama, during the past six months. He stated that on April 4, 1968, he was at Jackson, Mississippi. He stated he was working on a car behind the service station where he works at about 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and was talking to CLINTON BROWN, at which time he heard about Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's being shot at Memphis, Tennessee.

WORD is described as follows through interview and observation:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of Birth	February 13, 1930
Place of Birth	Carrollton, Georgia
Height	5'11"
Weight	137 Pounds
Build	Slim
Hair	Medium Brown
	Long and Curly
Eyes	Hazel
Scars and Marks	Small diagonal scar across bridge of nose

JN 157-9586

Tattoos

Colored flower with word "Love"
on left forearm; butterfly
on right forearm shaped like
"J"

Marital Status

Married

Wife

MARY RUTH

Children

Six, ages 4 through 17

Employment

Attendant, Briarwood Texaco
Service Station, 5575 Interstate
55 North, Jackson, Mississippi
employed for past year

Previous

Employment

Truck driver for various
companies, traveling throughout
the United States

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. JACK C. PETERS, owner, Briarwood Texaco Service Station, 5575 Interstate 55, North, Jackson, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry.

PETERS advised that OSCAR M. WORD has been employed regularly by this service station for approximately one year. He stated WORD works from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. or later, six days a week. His regular day off is Thursday of each week.

PETERS stated that WORD has not been absent from work any day this year to his recollection other than the past few days when he made a trip to Nevada to obtain his 1965 black Mustang convertible with a white top, which his wife had taken, about a week ago.

PETERS advised that WORD is a steady worker, has a good reputation, and he stated he has no reason to believe WORD would be involved in any type of racial violence.

On 4/15/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-21
by SA SAMUEL N. JENNINGS/bkh Date dictated 4/16/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

Commander CHESTER POOLE, U. S. Naval Reserve Training Center, 728 East Pearl, advised that his personnel records contain a jacket for Lieutenant J.G. WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR.

POOLE advised his records reflect the following description and miscellaneous information concerning TYNER:

Name -	WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR.
Present Rank -	Lieutenant J.G.
Service Number -	U. S. NR 664495/5105
Date of Birth -	September 12, 1933
Place of Birth -	Not Shown
Height -	5'11"
Weight -	160
Hair -	Brown
Eyes -	Brown
Blood type -	A Positive
Address -	770 George Street, Canton, Mississippi
Former address -	1304 Carolyn Avenue, Yazoo City, Mississippi as of November 27, 1962
Father -	WELDON HARVEY TYNER, SR 311 10th Avenue Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Mother -	ANNIE LAURA TYNER 311 10th Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Wife -	DOROTHY, 770 George Street, Canton, Mississippi

POOLE advised according to his records, TYNER attended a reserve training session for a construction battalion at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, in April, 1966.

On 4/11/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-20
by SA JERRY R. PARKER/pac Date dictated 4/12/68

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JN 157-9586

POOLE advised that according to his records TYNER was qualified as expert with the M-1 carbine rifle and .45 caliber pistol by B. F. BERKAU, Commander, C.O., MCB24 at the training session. POOLE advised that he could not be sure but he believed that he had heard TYNER called by the name of JACK previously.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR., 770 George Street, was interviewed at his place of business, Covington & Tyner Civil Engineers, 243 West Center Street.

TYNER advised that he did attend U. S. Naval Reserve Training Session at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, in March or April of 1966. TYNER advised that at this training session he qualified as an expert with both the M-1 rifle carbine and the .45 caliber automatic service pistol.

TYNER advised that he might have made such a statement as he would like to see MARTIN LUTHER KING killed, but TYNER advised he could not recall for certain whether he made such a statement at the Camp LeJeune Training Session.

TYNER advised he was in Canton, Mississippi, all day on April 4, 1968, and was working with Canton, Mississippi city employees and his partner GEORGE COVINGTON, cleaning a drainage ditch in Canton, Mississippi.

TYNER said he would furnish more names of the city employees if the interviewing Agent anytime in the future thought it was necessary. TYNER advised that no one had ever called TYNER by the first name of JACK.

On 4/11/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 -572-19
by SA JERRY R. PARKER/pac Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

GEORGE W. COVINGTON, residing Bob White Drive, was interviewed at his place of business Covington and Tyner, 243 West Center Street.

COVINGTON advised that his partner WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR., was working with COVINGTON in the cleaning of a drainage ditch on April 4, 1968.

COVINGTON advised that he could recall this since he kept record of their work day which he had checked and because he remembered Thursday being the day that it rained a good bit.

COVINGTON advised that he and TYNER were working in conjunction with some Canton, Mississippi city employees in the ditch project.

On 4/11/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-18
by SA JERRY R. PARKER/pac Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mr. RICHARD DAVIS, Superintendent, Crescent Laundry, furnished the following information:

The Crescent Laundry is one of two laundries in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to use the poly-mark system of laundry markings, the other being Southern Cleaners. The poly-mark machine, purchased from the South's main distributor, Pellerin Laundry Machine Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, prints a laundry mark on a piece of cloth tape and affixes this tape to the garment.

DAVIS advised that the cloth and tape for this machine comes in six colors plus stripes of white with these colors. He advised that the solid and striped colored tapes are varied weekly. DAVIS advised that no red tape is used, but that a shade of pink is a popular color. DAVIS related that this tape is bought from F. H. ROSS, Jackson, Mississippi.

DAVIS stated that all poly-mark machines print a laundry mark consisting of three segments, a number followed by a letter, followed by another number. He furnished the following key to the laundry mark used by Crescent Laundry:

First Number	1-99	Lot Number
Letter	A through Z (except I & O)	Week
Second Number	1-15	Customer Number

DAVIS advised that at the beginning of each week the lot number begins at one and continues as far as needed. He stated that lot numbers of less than ten use only this number and are not preceded by a zero in his system. He advised that some poly-mark machines may use a zero preceding a single digit, as he has seen such markings.

On 4/10/68 at Hattiesburg, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-17
by SA THOMAS E. BURG/pac Date dictated 4/11/68

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JN 157-9586

Thus, DAVIS advised the laundry mark 02B6 would not be made by his machines, for his machine would number this simply 2B6.

DAVIS stated that Crescent Laundry does work for nine other laundries in Hattiesburg, and that work for all these laundries bears these same markings. He stated that there is no way to tell what specific laundry has done a piece of work simply from looking at a laundry mark.

He stated that one other company, Southern Cleaners, uses the poly-mark method in this area. He advised that a competitive method, called thermo-seal, is of about the same popularity as poly-mark, and is used by one one laundry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, this being the Phoenix Laundry. He stated that the tapes for these two systems are similar, but that the Thermo-seal machine uses thinner tape which is harder to remove from the garment.

DAVIS stated that he had no knowledge of whether or not the Southern Cleaners used a zero in front of a single digit in their laundry mark. He made available samples of unused poly-mark tape and several printed samples from his machine.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

Mr. JAMES JONES, Mississippi Use Tax Division, Mississippi State Tax Commission, Woolfolk Building, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that the numbering on beer cans has no special significance to his office or to the State of Mississippi.

Mr. JONES said that all Schlitz beer shipped into the state of Mississippi is canned in Longview, Texas, at the Schlitz Brewing Company, and that the Schlitz Company might be in a position to furnish information concerning numbering data on its cans.

On 4/9/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-16
by SA L. DEAN PAARMANN:mif Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

Mr. JAMES LLOYD, Branch Manager, Rudolph Ramelli Company, South Commerce Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that his company distributes the Thermo-Seal marking machine in central and northern Mississippi, but that he knows of no machines in use in these areas, with the exception of the Phoenix Laundry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Mr. LLOYD said his company's offices in New Orleans, Louisiana, handle any sales in the southern part of Mississippi.

On 4/9/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-15
by SA L. DEAN PAARMANN:mif Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

Mr. JAMES EADY, manager, F. H. Ross Company, Commerce Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that his company distributes cleaning and laundry supplies to retail outlets in central Mississippi.

When shown a photograph of a pair of men's shorts and a T-shirt which bore a red-colored laundry mark, Mr. EADY stated that this tape was placed on the garments by a Thermo-Seal temporary identification machine. He said his company distributes this machine in central Mississippi. The only machine he knows about in his area is the Phoenix Laundry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Mr. EADY said his company, which also maintains offices in Mobile, Alabama, handles any sales in the southern part of Mississippi, while the same company, with offices in Memphis, Tennessee, handles all business in northern Mississippi.

On 4/9/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-14
by SA L. DEAN PAARMANN:mif Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

J. E. RICKS, Laundry Manager, Delta State College, Cleveland, Mississippi, advised the laundry owned a Thermo Seal machine for marking laundry but the machine had not been used for over four years. He said for the last four years laundry had been marked at Delta State College by stamping each garment with the first initial of the student's last name and his student number in indelible ink.

Mr. RICKS said when the Thermo Seal machine had been used, it had placed a tape bearing a lot and serial number on each garment. He said there were no printed tapes available and there was no way the machine could be operated in its present location and condition.

He made available for examination a Thermo Seal machine, Model H5K1, serial number 31355, which was stored in a building about one block from the laundry on the Delta State campus. The machine was covered with dust and surrounded by other miscellaneous pieces of equipment.

On 4/10/68 at Cleveland, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-13
by SA CHARLES W. WILMORE, JR.:ccs Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

EFFIE LEE WALTON, nee JENKINS, Route 2, Box 119, Potts Camp, Mississippi, was located and interviewed in Marshall County, Mississippi. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, WALTON volunteered the following information:

WALTON explained she is employed at Jack's Truck Stop located on Highway 78, between Holly Springs and Potts Camp, Mississippi. She stated that in conjunction with her employment, she was at work on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

WALTON stated that on April 4, 1968, at approximately 6:30 P.M., just before dark, she was standing in the front window at Jack's Truck Stop. She explained that she had just heard a few minutes prior about the shooting incident involving Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. She further pointed out that she is relatively certain of the time being approximately 6:30 as she gets off of work at 7:00 P.M., and the incident she has in mind occurred prior to her quitting time of 7:00 P.M.

WALTON stated as she was looking out the front window at Jack's Truck Stop, she observed a white Mustang which she believed to be a 1967 model, pull off of Highway 78 onto the driveway of Jack's Truck Stop. She stated that two white males were sitting in the front seat of this vehicle, and that

On 4/9/68 at Marshall County, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-12
by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU
SA KENNETH P. HUGHES /RTR/bjk Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

there was one white male sitting in the rear of this car on the passenger side of the vehicle. She stated there was possibly a second individual sitting in the rear seat of the vehicle; however, she could not be certain of this. She pointed out that the car apparently had clothing, or items, hanging in the car, and she just could not be certain whether or not she had observed a second individual sitting in the back seat of the car.

WALTON stated that the Mustang came to a quick stop and the white male sitting on the passenger side of the front seat got out of the car, proceeded around the vehicle, and got behind the steering wheel of the vehicle. She stated that the driver of the car apparently just scooted over the front seat and never actually got out of the car. WALTON stated that the vehicle immediately departed in what she considered to be a rather hasty fashion, spinning its tires in the gravel.

WALTON stated that the vehicle was definitely a white Mustang and she is relatively certain that it was a 1967 model vehicle. WALTON was requested to describe this vehicle in detail, and thereafter, furnished the following information:

WALTON stated she believed the vehicle was a two door, and was definitely not a convertible or sports model car. She stated she recalls observing a chrome strip running the complete length of the vehicle, and further recalls that the car was very clean, with shiny chrome hubcaps. WALTON stated she could not be certain concerning the license plates of the car, but believed the license plates had a white background and that the numbers or letters on the license plates were a dark color. WALTON stated that the only thing she could be certain about concerning the license plates was that the license plates were not Mississippi tags.

WALTON was requested to describe the white males she observed in the white Mustang. She pointed out that

JN 157-9586

the individuals remaining in the car while it was stopped at Jack's Truck Stop were not observed by her very closely and she could not furnish any real details concerning their description. She did recall that the individuals were all white males, and she estimated the individuals to be in their early twenties. She stated that her first impression concerning these individuals was that they were young college men.

WALTON furnished the following description of the individual that actually got out of the white Mustang, and who walked around to the driver's side of this car:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	23-24
Hair:	light-colored and rather long like a Beatle haircut; she explained the hair was combed to the side

WALTON stated this individual was tall and rather slim, and was wearing what she believes to have been a dark brown sports coat with a white shirt. She stated this individual was not wearing a tie, to the best of her memory. She further stated this individual walked with the top portion of his body leaning over. She explained that he did not walk standing straight up. She explained that the only other way she could describe this walk was that the individual appeared to be walking in a hurry.

WALTON has stated she did not recognize any of the individuals in this automobile, and that she did not recognize the car as belonging to anyone she was familiar with. She further stated it was questionable whether she could ever identify the one white male that she observed get out of the 1967 Mustang and walk around the car.

WALTON concluded by stating she could furnish no other information regarding the white males or the vehicle

JN 157-9586

they were driving. She did recall that the vehicle approached Jack's Truck Stop on Highway 78 from the north, and was headed south when it departed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

JOHN A. ANDERSON was interviewed at his place of incarceration, Natchez Police Department, Natchez, Mississippi. ANDERSON was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview, and was immediately advised of his constitutional rights. ANDERSON waived these rights by executing the waiver of rights form and voluntarily provided the following information:

ANDERSON stated that during the evening of April 8 and April 9, 1968, he was at the Fountain Lounge in Natchez, driving heavily. He stated that the owner of the Fountain Lounge, JAKE GUERCIO, whom he knew from Woodville, Mississippi, recognized that he was in an intoxicated condition and asked how he was going to get to Woodville. ANDERSON stated that he told GUERCIO he had intended to ride down with a truck driver but that it appeared that he had forgotten him. ANDERSON stated that GUERCIO told him that he would let him sleep in the Fountain Lounge and "sleep it off" so that he would not be arrested by the police for public intoxication. ANDERSON stated that GUERCIO left him in the Fountain Lounge, locked the door, and apparently went home.

ANDERSON advised that after he was left alone in the lounge, he continued to drink beer and become even more intoxicated. He stated that he found a notepad and decided to write a note and leave it in the lounge as a joke. He stated that he found a pen and wrote the following on a notepad, "I killed M.L.K. in Memphis, Tenn. The Mayor is next. The Klan." ANDERSON further stated that he had written the note he dropped the pad and misplaced it and could not find it again. ANDERSON advised that he was very drunk at the time and did not realize that the note would be taken seriously.

On 4/9/68 at Natchez, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-11
by SA PAUL W. ROEMER / mlt Date dictated 4/11/68

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ANDERSON concluded that he has been in Woodville for approximately a week and that on the night that MARTIN LUTHER KING was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, 1968, he was at the J. B. Nettles Truck Stop, Route 61 South, Wilkinson County, Mississippi, from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM the following morning, in a drunken condition. ANDERSON stated that he is a good friend of the owner of Nettles Truck Stop and that MILDRED NETTLES would be able to verify his story.

The following is a description of ANDERSON obtained by observation and interview:

Name:	JOHN A. ANDERSON
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Black
Height:	6 feet
Weight:	180
Date of Birth:	September 27, 1944
Social Security #:	425-84-3210
Georgia operator's license number:	305384
Address:	3003½ Reese Road Columbus, Georgia
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	PEGGY ANN ANDERSON (separated), presently living with Mrs. LUCILLE BUCKEL, Woodville, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mr. JAMES L. TATUM, Laundry Department Director, University of Mississippi, was interviewed at the University Laundry.

Mr. TATUM advised that the University Laundry presently uses two poly-mark machines in placing laundry marks on clothing and stated that the poly-mark machines are made by the Pinnacle Company of England and are distributed by W. A. Pullrin Company of New Orleans.

He described his machines as number 1, motor number 5069033, and serial number MC1247.

He identified as machine number 2 a poly-mark, motor number G3455C-8, and serial number MC14182.

Mr. TATUM advised that these are the only two machines in use at present and stated they have been in use at least five years since he has been director at the laundry for that period of time. He could not state how much longer they had been in operation, however, he located an inventory card listing machine MC14182 having been purchased August 1, 1961. He advised the other machine MC1247 was purchased according to his records in approximately 1955. He advised his records were incomplete concerning this stamping machine.

He explained that each of these poly-mark machines have five adjustable dials to adjust various variations of laundry marks. He explained that the first and second ring were listed only as numerals one through nine and stated the third ring was letters A through Z and stated the two remaining rings numbers 4 and 5 were numerals one through nine. He also explained that the first ring did not have a zero and it was impossible to print such a laundry mark as 02B-6 or D2B-6, it

On 4/10/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-10
by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN/pac Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

being noted that the first digit ring was numerals only one through nine.

He made available samples from both of these machines which have been properly marked and identified.

With reference to a thermo-seal stamping machine, he advised that he has no such machines at the University Laundry. He also checked all available records concerning the existence of a thermo-seal machine, however, could find no record of any such machine ever having been the property of the University Laundry.

He did state, however, that the laundry has blue tago electric serial numbers 23463 and 24048, both being model number BPDC5S3B1. He stated these machines have not been used in many years and that they staple on the laundry mark rather than glue it on with heat as the poly-mark machine does.

Mr. TATUM advised that he has another poly-mark machine, serial number A1576, which has not been used in approximately three years since the machine is not in working order. He advised that he purchased this machine from Mississippi State University in 1965.

He concluded by stating that he is unable to furnish the significance of either laundry mark 02B-6 or D2B-6.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 9, 1968

Mrs. JOHN (BARBARA) WILLARD, an employee of the Credit Bureau of Oxford, Mississippi, advised that, since speaking with the Federal Bureau of Investigation earlier in the day, she recalled that while employed by the Tupelo, Mississippi, Credit Bureau (specific year unrecalled, but perhaps 1966) she was made aware of another JOHN WILLARD in the Tupelo, Mississippi, area through credit files.

She could furnish no information about this individual other than the fact that he moved to Tupelo, Mississippi, from some other city. Mrs. WILLARD could furnish no additional information.

On 4/5/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-9
by SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER:yv Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

Mrs. BARBARA WILLARD, who is employed at the Credit Bureau of Oxford, Oxford, Mississippi, advised that her husband, JOHN H. WILLARD is employed at Day Bright Corporation, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mrs. WILLARD stated that her husband is the son of ENOS and MAMIE WILLARD who reside in the Thaxton Community in Pontotoc County, Mississippi. Mrs. WILLARD could not recall ENOS and MAMIE ever living in Nesbit, Mississippi.

She continued that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, her husband was at the family home, Highway 6, Pontotoc County, Mississippi, at approximately 5:30 p.m., when she arrived following the completion of her day's work in Oxford, Mississippi. She recalled that her young son was there with her husband at that time.

Mrs. WILLARD stated that her husband remained at the house the remainder of the day and the night of April 4, 1968. He mowed the lawn for a short period of time.

Normally, Mr. WILLARD completes work in Tupelo, Mississippi, at 3:30 p.m., and returns home where he awaits the return of Mrs. WILLARD. Mrs. WILLARD advised she could not say for certain where her husband was from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., April 4, 1968, but repeated that she is absolutely certain that he was at home at 5:30 p.m., and remained there the rest of the day.

She concluded by stating that to the best of her knowledge, no one has ever used her husband's name.

On 4/5/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-8
by SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER:yv/ccs Date dictated 4/8/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

REGGIE SMITH, cameraman, Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), Atlanta, Georgia, telephonically contacted SA JAMES O. INGRAM on April 12, 1968. He stated he had just arrived in Atlanta upon instructions issued by officials of CBS. The news media is presently carrying headlines indicating that ERIC STARVO GALT is a prime suspect in the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. at Memphis, Tennessee. A white Mustang registered to GALT was found in Atlanta, on April 11, 1968, abandoned. Through news media, SMITH has obtained description of GALT and believes he has information which could be of value to the FBI. He furnished the following information:

On Saturday, April 6, 1968, he and his soundman, LEROY COLLINS, traveled to Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, to film persons viewing the body of Dr. KING, or incidents. The first roll of film that he shot was of a group of about ten people. There was one lone white male who viewed the body in this first group and he and his soundman, COLLINS, noticed the unknown male pass by the coffin and smile. He appeared to laugh, looked around to see if anyone was observing him, and he left "with a smile on his face." SMITH did not consider the incident of any value at that time, until he reviewed the information on GALT and GALT's description.

He described the unknown subject who viewed the body of KING as a white male, in his early thirties, 5' 10" to 5' 11", weight 160 - 170 pounds, dark hair, and was wearing a light-colored suit. SMITH suggested that the FBI may desire to review his first can of sixteen

On 4/12/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-7
by SA JAMES O. INGRAM/bjk Date dictated 4/12/68

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JN 157-9586

millimeter sound film which is presently stored at CBS Headquarters, New York, New York. He identified the film as the only white male on the first roll of film and feels he has a good photograph of him. SMITH stated he would contact SA INGRAM later and advise where he could be reached, if needed, in the future.

At 12:32 P.M., April 12, 1968, SMITH telephonically advised from Atlanta that he was residing at the Roswell Road Apartments, Atlanta, telephone number 252-3428, and could always be reached through CBS Headquarters, Atlanta 873-3195.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

ROME A. EMMONS, JR., President, The Phoenix Laundry Corporation, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

His corporation is the only laundry in Mississippi he knows of which uses the Thermo-Seal laundry-marking machine. He stated that the Phoenix Laundry does work for itself and for one other company, the Rite-Way Cleaners, Bowie Street, Hattiesburg.

Mr. EMMONS advised that laundry marking 02B6 is not a marking of his company. He stated that the marking of his company consists of a letter of the alphabet, followed by a number, followed by another letter, followed by a number up to 25. EMMONS furnished the following key to this laundry code:

First Letter	Day of the week (M T W X F S)
First Number	Series in alphabet
Second Letter	Lot
Final Number	Bundle within this lot

EMMONS advised that lots are lettered beginning on the Monday of each week with consecutive alphabets, thus the first lot on Monday begins 1A.

EMMONS stated that the tape for this machine is 5/16-inch laundry-marking tape made by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. He stated that the Phoenix Laundry purchases this tape from F. H. ROSS and RUDOLPH RAMELLI, both of Jackson, Mississippi.

On 4/9/68 at Hattiesburg, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-6
 by TEB SA THOMAS E. BURG:mif Date dictated 4/9/68

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EMMONS advised that this tape comes in eight to ten colors; however, red is not a good color, in that the ink from the machine tends to fade and run on red tape. He advised that all colors are used in regular rotation, changing after approximately 20 tickets in a lot.

EMMONS stated that a competitive machine called the Poly-Mark makes similar markings to the Thermo-Seal machine but uses slightly smaller tape, believing this tape to be one-quarter inch wide. He stated that the Crescent Laundry and Southern Cleaners, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, may use this type of machine.

EMMONS furnished samples of the tape used by his machine and several different markings made by this machine.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

JERRY WILSON, Office Manager, K G W Towing Company, Greenville, advised that BILLY RAY KING is an employee of that concern. He advised that on April 4, 1968, he personally observed KING get on a Greyhound Bus in Greenville at 7:55 P.M. He advised that on that date, he first saw KING in the K G W Towing Company, Greenville, Mississippi, at 5:00 P.M. He stated that at this time, he advanced KING money for a bus trip from Greenville to Quincy, Illinois. He stated that he received a telephone call from KING at approximately 10:00 P.M., April 4, 1968, from Clarksdale, Mississippi, during which KING advised the Greyhound Bus he had been riding had been stopped in Clarksdale. WILSON advised that he told KING to get a room in Clarksdale and go back to his home in Lake Providence, Louisiana, the next morning. He stated that WILSON stayed in a Downtowner in Clarksdale during the evening of April 4-5, 1968. WILSON furnished a paid receipt showing that KING had checked into the Downtowner in Clarksdale at 10:12 P.M., April 4, 1968.

WILSON advised that he next heard from KING during the morning of April 5, 1968. He advised that KING advised him at that time that his mother had come to the Downtowner in Clarksdale and picked him up. He advised that KING had stated his mother had taken him back to his home in Lake Providence, Louisiana.

WILSON advised that KING came back to Greenville on April 5, 1968, and at his instructions, caught a plane to Memphis, Tennessee. WILSON advised that the ticket had been confirmed from Greenville to Quincy, Illinois, with Southern Airlines. He advised that the plane had been forced to land in Memphis. He stated that KING

On 4/8/68 at Greenville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-5

SA JOHN W. NEELLEY *JWN*

by SA WILLIAM C. MEARNES *WCM* WCM/wgj Date dictated 4/8/68

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JN 157-9586

then took a bus from Memphis, Tennessee, to Rock Island, Illinois. WILSON advised that KING checked in on the boat "George Weathers" at 3:00 A.M., April 8, 1968, at Rock Island, Illinois.

WILSON described KING as follows:

Name	BILLY RAY KING
Address	1201 Blount Street Lake Providence, Louisiana
Height	Six feet one inch
Weight	One Hundred eighty
Hair	Dark
Age	Twenty-two

WILSON advised that he had never heard KING make any statements indicating KING had a violent nature or that KING had any Klan affiliation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mr. WATSON MARLIN, Supervisor, Line 1, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green Street, Tupelo, and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that he had occasion to immediately supervise JOHN H. WILLARD on Line 1 in the Day Brite factory on April 4, 1968. Mr. MARLIN stated that he recalls JOHN H. WILLARD being on the line during the entire working period which consisted of the period of time from 7:00 A.M. until 3:30 P.M. MARLIN stated that the only period of absence he could recall would have been from 11:45 A.M. until 12:15 P.M. during which time WILLARD would have been on his lunch break.

Mr. MARLIN stated that he could not verify the exact time that WILLARD punched in to work on April 4, 1968, nor could he verify the punching out at 3:30 P.M.; however, he stated that in WILLARD's absence the entire assembly line would have been closed down and this was not done.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 - 572-4
by SA DONALD H. GREENE/b1s Date dictated 4/5/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

BILLY GLEN DOWDY, 115 Warren Street, Pontotoc, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mr. DOWDY advised that he works in the same department at Day Brite's Lighting, Incorporated, as does JOHN WILLARD and they are in the same car pool together. He advised that on April 4, 1968, he and WILLARD punched out about the same time and got into WILLARD's 1968 Ford pickup Deluxe, yellow and white, and drove to the Union Hall located on North Spring Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and attended a meeting of local 1028, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He said the union meeting ended shortly before 5:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, after which time the two of them got into WILLARD's truck and drove to Pontotoc, Mississippi, where WILLARD let him out at his home around 5:10 or 5:15 P.M. and WILLARD left his home en route to his, WILLARD's, residence located on Highway 6 west of Pontotoc, Mississippi.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi

File # Jackson 157-9586-572-3

by SA JOHN S. CASTLES

SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls

Date dictated 4/5/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mrs. KATHLEEN WEST, Personnel Clerk, Personnel Department, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, made available the time card of JOHN H. WILLARD for the current work week. This card revealed that WILLARD is employed in department number 332, clock number 193, and that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, he checked in at 6:46 A.M. and checked out at 3:32 P.M.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-S72-2
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls Date dictated 4/5/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, after being advised of the nature of the inquiry and the identity of the interviewing agents, was given a form entitled "Your Rights" and after reading the form and signing the "Waiver of Rights" section of the form, furnished the following information concerning his activities. On April 4, 1968, he stated that he arrived at his place of employment, the Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, plant located at South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, shortly before 7:00 A.M. He said that he was at the plant all the day long and punched out several minutes after 3:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968. He related after leaving the plant he and BILLY GLENN DOWDY went to the Union Hall located on North Spring Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and attended a union meeting of local 1028, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This union meeting lasted until shortly before 5:00 P.M., after which time he and DOWDY got into his 1968 Ford pickup Deluxe, yellow and white, having no license plate, and drove to the home of DOWDY located on Warren Street, Pontotoc, Mississippi, where he let DOWDY out of the truck and then he proceeded to his home located west of Pontotoc, Mississippi, on Highway 6, approximately five miles.

WILLARD stated that when he arrived at his home around 5:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968, his wife, BARBARA NELL, and their son, RANDY JOE, were already at home. He said he did not leave his home after arriving home and retired for the evening around 8:30 P.M. He stated that prior to his evening meal, he started mowing the lawn.

WILLARD stated he did not go to Memphis on April 4, 1968, and has not been to Memphis in approximately a month, at which time he had visited a brother who resides in Southaven, Mississippi. WILLARD further stated that he has no knowledge of the individual or individuals responsible for the shooting of Dr. KING, stating that the only information he has is what he

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-1
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls Date dictated 4/5/68

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learned while viewing television.

The following description of WILLARD was obtained through interview and observation:

Name:	JOHN HUBEART WILLARD
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	February 24, 1938
Place of Birth:	Pontotoc County, Mississippi
Height:	5 feet 11 inches
Weight:	160
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown - normally wears crew cut but now hair growing out
Education:	9th grade, Hurricane School, Pontotoc County, Mississippi
Military Service:	None
Selective Service Board:	Pontotoc County, Pontotoc, Mississippi
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	BARBARA NELL WILLARD, nee DAY, Route 5, Pontotoc, Mississippi, employed Credit Bureau, Oxford, Mississippi
Children:	One, son RANDY JOE WILLARD, 4th grade student, Thaxton School, Pontotoc County, Mississippi
Parents:	Mr. and Mrs. ENIS D. WILLARD, Hurricane Community, Pontotoc County, Mississippi, mailing address Route 1, Thaxton, Mississippi
Brothers:	KENNETH D. WILLARD, 28

Sisters:

Admitted arrests:

Previous residences:

Social Security Number:

Occupation:

Dudley Street,
Southaven, Mississippi,
employed Mengle Box
Company, Memphis,
Tennessee

SHIRLEY QUAY WILLARD, 22
Pontotoc, Mississippi,
employed Brookwood
Manufacturing Company,
Pontotoc, Mississippi

LINDER WILLARD, 36,
Route 1, Thaxton,
Mississippi

Mrs. W. K. (BILLY JOYCE) WILLIAMS
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi

Mrs. PETE (JUNE) BLACK,
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi

Mrs. KENNETH (FRANCES) FRANKLIN,
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi

Mrs. GARDNER (JEAN) BULLINGTON,
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi

1958 - offense occurred
Pontotoc County, Mississippi,
but arrested in Memphis,
Tennessee, three years
probation; 1966 - public
drunk, Pontotoc, Mississippi;
several traffic violations

Pontotoc County, Mississippi,
except a period of residence,
1958, at 1850 Jefferson
Street, Memphis, Tennessee

409-60-4814

Assemblyman, Day Brite
Lighting, Incorporated,
Tupelo, Mississippi, five
years

Vehicles:

1968 Ford pickup
Deluxe, yellow and
white, no license
plates, owned approximately
two weeks; white 1968
model Volkswagen used by
wife for transportation
to Oxford

WILLARD voluntarily consented to be photographed
and photographs obtained.

JOHN WILLARD stated he knows of no other persons
named JOHN WILLARD and he knows of no reason why anyone
might use his name. He stated he owns a Remington Semi-
Automatic .22 caliber rifle and a very old .410 shotgun.